

Latin America

LITIGATION & ARBITRATION PRACTICE



SULLIVAN & CROMWELL LLP

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Marble Caves of Patagonia, Chile



On the cover:
Sergio Galvis, Amanda Davidoff, Andrew Finn, Robert J. Giuffra Jr.,
Tom White, Katy McArthur

Sullivan & Cromwell's Latin America Litigation and Arbitration Practices

Building On Our Historic Connection

We are pleased to introduce you to some of the leading lawyers in Sullivan & Cromwell's Latin America Litigation and Arbitration Practices. Everyone on our talented team, ranging from some of our most experienced lawyers to our emerging leaders, brings a unique story and background to this practice. Together, our multilingual partners, special counsels and associates share an impressive record of results and a commitment to establishing lasting institutional relationships with clients.

As Latin America's dynamic political and economic landscape continually shifts, clients need trusted advisers for the long term. There are many fine lawyers in the market, but for more than 140 years Sullivan & Cromwell has been recognized for its strong culture rooted in excellence, innovation and commitment to our clients. We have long recruited, trained and mentored the best lawyers as generalists and created an environment where they collaborate to help clients solve their most challenging problems and corporate crises. We believe generalist lawyers are best suited for these matters because the crisis of today is not the crisis of tomorrow.

Unlike most firms, we don't view our Latin America practice as an isolated regional practice. When we staff matters, we look beyond our lawyers who work primarily in the region and field multi-disciplinary teams from those with the ideal skills and experience. Clients who engage S&C for their Latin American matters will benefit from the resources of our entire Firm.

“As Latin America's dynamic political and economic landscape continually shifts, clients need trusted advisers for the long term.”

For more than a century, we have advised on the most complex and noteworthy matters across Latin America, including litigations, arbitrations, restructurings and government investigations. Many of our clients have been with us for decades and our relationships are deep; others come to us for the first time because of our renowned position in the region. We approach each client with our full commitment and dedication.

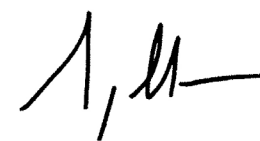
Our clients include businesses, sovereign nations and sovereign-owned enterprises and wealth funds, and individuals. In recent years, we have represented the Republic of Argentina in litigation on multiple fronts, advised the nation of Belize in a successful restructuring of its debt using an innovative debt-for-nature swap, advised financial institutions and other businesses on government investigations, and represented myriad Latin American companies in U.S. class actions and other securities litigation.

As our clients face increasingly complex legal issues in Latin America, our team stands ready to advise clients before issues erupt into disputes, and guide them if they do. In doing so, we recognize the critical role of local firms, and all of the lawyers you will meet in this publication have worked closely with co-counsel across Latin America.

We hope you enjoy learning more about our talented colleagues in the following pages and look forward to hearing from you.

Sergio J. Galvis

Robert J. Giuffra Jr.





Sergio Galvis is the head of Sullivan & Cromwell's Latin America practice and is recognized as one of the leading lawyers for clients with interests in the region. A native of Colombia, who is fluent in Spanish and proficient in Portuguese, Sergio advises on a broad range of high-stakes matters that span disputes and major transactions. Recent engagements include representing the Republic of Argentina in U.S. and U.K. litigation brought by hedge funds holding GDP-linked securities issued by the nation, the Interim Government and the National Assembly of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in arbitration and dispute matters, Grupo México in shareholder

derivative litigation in Delaware, Volaris (Mexico) in shareholder litigation, and BHP in securities litigation.

In 2021, the *Financial Times* named Sergio as a finalist for Most Innovative Legal Practitioner in North America. *Latin Lawyer* has recognized Sergio as its International Lawyer of the Year, and *Chambers Latin America* has designated him among its most recognized lawyers, with high standings in four categories. He is the co-editor of *Latin Lawyer's* "The Guide to Corporate Crisis Management."

[full bio>](#)



Robert J. Giuffra Jr. is the Co-Chair of Sullivan & Cromwell and focuses his practice on high-stakes litigation and crisis management. A fellow of the America College of Trial Lawyers and the International Academy of Trial Lawyers, and a former clerk for the late U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist, he has successfully handled major matters from jury trials to U.S. Supreme Court appeals, including on behalf of Latin American sovereigns and corporations. He is representing the Republic of Argentina in U.S. litigation brought by hedge funds holding GDP-linked securities issued by the Republic. He also counseled the Audit Committee of Tenaris in an internal investigation of FCPA issues and

helped the company resolve Department of Justice and SEC investigations, including obtaining the SEC's first deferred prosecution agreement.

In 2021, the *New York Law Journal* recognized Bob with its Distinguished Leader Award and *The National Law Journal* named him a Crisis Leadership Trailblazer. *The American Lawyer* has named him its Litigator of the Year, and the *Financial Times* has recognized him as a U.S. Innovative Lawyer. He is a ten-time *Law360* MVP, the most in the history of those awards. He is the co-editor of *Latin Lawyer's* "The Guide to Corporate Crisis Management."

[full bio>](#)



Amanda Davidoff

Deputy Managing Partner of the Litigation Group
Managing Partner, Washington, D.C., office
Yale Law School, J.D.

Clerk, The Honorable Ralph K. Winter, United
States Court of Appeals, Second Circuit"

[full bio >](#)

Amanda Davidoff:

Sharing Local Legal Customs

Early in her legal career, whenever an assigning partner asked if someone could speak Spanish, Amanda Davidoff raised her hand. She had spent time in Spain between college and law school and was excited for the chance to keep up her language skills. That enthusiasm has paid off. Now the Managing Partner of S&C's Washington, D.C., office and Deputy Managing Partner of S&C's Litigation Group, Amanda is handling several first-of-their-kind cases for corporate and sovereign clients in Colombia, Mexico and Argentina.

Beyond her love of language, what excites Amanda about S&C's Latin America practice is working on high-stakes matters while learning from best-in-class lawyers practicing in other countries. "It provides a unique opportunity to make international connections," she explains. "I've learned so much from the leading local law firms and am always amazed by the hospitality I've received. The in-house government lawyers in Latin America have such an interesting perspective; they have a strong sense of mission and national interest that makes our work really meaningful."

In recent years, Amanda has represented clients on a diverse range of disputes connected to the region, including

advising Argos USA, the U.S. subsidiary of Colombia-based Cementos Argos, in antitrust class action litigation in the United States, a U.S.-based company on a class action in Mexico, and the Republic of Argentina in two major litigation matters. She also serves as lead national coordinating counsel for BP in litigation and investigations arising out of the February 2021 winter storm in Texas, including advising BP in disputes with Mexican counterparties over gas contracts.

Amanda finds it rewarding to help clients understand the U.S. litigation system. "It's not uncommon to be asked to produce massive quantities of documents. That's not how it's done in many Latin American countries," she notes. "Similarly, the leading local law firms we work with help us understand their customs. In Mexico, you can informally visit with local counsel and the judge— that would never happen in the United States—which likely wouldn't be something we could do without strong local partnerships." This cooperative relationship keeps her Latin America matters interesting and, she says with a smile, traveling to such a beautiful part of the world is a great bonus.

Tom White: Litigating for a Sovereign Nation

Litigation partner Tom White has worked on disputes connected to Latin America and Spanish-speaking regions since the start of his career. As an associate, he was part of the team representing Banco Popular, Puerto Rico's largest bank, in securities, derivative and ERISA litigation. "I worked closely with in-house counsel to make sure the decision makers were fully informed about what was happening in each of the cases and the next steps we anticipated," recalls Tom, who is proficient in Spanish. "I really learned a lot working with that client."

As a partner, Tom has been defending the Republic of Argentina in high-stakes litigation on two fronts. In a set of cases in New York and London, Tom is representing Argentina as it pushes back against claims by hedge funds that invested in the Republic's GDP-linked securities to try to seek more money under the securities' complex payout formula. The other litigation was brought by former minority

shareholders in YPF, an energy company formerly owned by the state of Argentina. The plaintiffs are suing Argentina for breach of contract in New York over the Republic's intervention in YPF in 2012 and asserting claims for significant damages.

"I've noticed Latin American clients are very hands-on," says Tom. "They're very involved in discovery and correspondence and give good, substantive comments."

Tom—one of S&C's trial lawyers—expects the plaintiffs' bar to be more emboldened in the future, especially as litigation funding has taken hold. In the YPF case, for example, a major litigation funder is backing the plaintiffs. "Litigation funders will invest money in ways that result in bringing claims that would otherwise not be brought by pursuing creative theories," he says. "We can help clients prepare for and respond to these types of attacks."



Tom White

Yale Law School, J.D.
Clerk for the Honorable Loretta Preska,
United States District Court,
Southern District of New York

[full bio>](#)



Andrew Finn

Coordinator of Arbitration Group
New York Law School, J.D.
Clerk for the Honorable J.P. Stadtmueller,
United States District Court,
Eastern District of Wisconsin

[full bio>](#)



Pedro José Izquierdo

New York University School of Law, LL.M.

[full bio>](#)

Andrew Finn and Pedro José Izquierdo: International Arbitration and Rising Political Risk

Andrew Finn and Pedro José Izquierdo bring different backgrounds to their practices in international arbitration. Andrew grew up in Wisconsin, where he majored in Spanish and Economics at the University of Wisconsin and studied in Buenos Aires. Pedro José grew up in Ecuador, studied in Spain and New York, and started his legal career at a boutique firm in Ecuador. Both understand the needs of clients facing arbitration disputes involving Latin America.

"I can connect with the clients and understand the dynamics they are dealing with," says Andrew, who is coordinator of S&C's Arbitration Group and has traveled to most of the countries in Latin America.

He recently helped a Sempra Energy affiliate obtain a favorable award in an ICC arbitration involving a dispute with customers arising from an LNG liquefaction project in Mexico. He is also representing Corporación Nacional del Cobre de Chile (CODELCO) in an ICC arbitration involving one of the largest copper mining projects in the world.

Andrew has had the advantage of working closely for more than a decade with S&C's deep bench of international litigators, including Joseph Neuhaus, one of the preeminent members of the arbitration bar who recently took of counsel status after nearly four decades at the Firm.

Special counsel Pedro José, who is dual trained in civil and common law, has similarly handled a range of matters throughout the region, including arbitrations involving infrastructure, oil and gas, energy and insurance. In addition to practicing law in his native Ecuador, he has practiced in Mexico and has traveled widely in the region. "I know the Latin American market from the inside, having lived and practiced law there," he says. "It's one of the most diverse regions in terms of the kind of matters that arise. There's always something new."

One of the enduring areas of focus for clients in the region is managing political risk and the uncertainties that creates for large, long-term investments. "We've seen a meaningful increase in attention to emerging political risk in countries throughout Latin America," says Andrew. "We work closely with Sergio Galvis and our other corporate colleagues at S&C and with

leading local law firms to advise on how to structure transactions to maximize investor treaty and other recourse should a dispute arise." Adds Pedro José, "There's a lot we can do to help clients manage potential disputes on the front end."

"We try to provide advice before the storm, recognizing that a potential investor-state dispute presents unique challenges," Andrew explains. "When a dispute does arise, we take a 360-degree approach. We evaluate the client's short-term, medium-term and long-term goals and strategies to reach those goals."

"It's not only that we zealously defend our client's interest," adds Pedro José, "but we have litigated and arbitrated these types of disputes many times all over the region, and bring the kind of expertise and resources that put clients in the strongest position to prevail."



Katy McArthur

Harvard Law School, J.D.

Co-head of Securities & Commodities
Investigations Practice

Co-head of Commodities, Futures &
Derivatives Practice

[full bio>](#)

Katy McArthur:

The Puzzle of Cross-Border Enforcement

For litigation partner **Katy McArthur**, counseling clients in Latin America on U.S. regulatory enforcement matters requires a thoughtful approach.

One challenge is that cross-border enforcement often gives rise to conflicting legal obligations. “It’s important to listen and recognize that the best overall strategy is the one that maximizes the outcome across all relevant jurisdictions. When there are competing considerations outside the U.S., sometimes the second-best strategy from a U.S. perspective is the right choice for a client. You need to give clear guidance on the U.S. interests and be flexible in considering the impact of potentially competing interests.”

Fluent in Spanish and Portuguese, Katy has deep ties to the region. “My family is from Mexico; I spent my summers there as a child and return as often as I can,” she explains. She has lived, worked and studied in Brazil, Chile and Mexico.

As co-head of S&C’s Securities & Commodities Investigations Practice and its Commodities, Futures and Derivatives practice, Katy counsels financial institutions and other clients on matters of U.S. law

in government probes and internal investigations in Latin American countries. She has advised on investigations relating to potential fraud and market manipulation, as well as potential money laundering and FCPA violations, coordinating closely with lawyers in the Firm’s FCPA and AML practices. When clients face corporate crises, she works closely with Bob Giuffra and Sergio Galvis on crisis management strategy.

In recent years, these matters have become increasingly complex as authorities from different countries coordinate to investigate and pursue cases. “There’s an increasing trend for international coordination in the region,” says Katy. “Operation Car Wash, which featured extensive coordination between authorities in the United States and Brazil, was a good example for everyone that multilateral coordination in enforcement initiatives can yield major results. And so that model is being pursued even more broadly within the region, and I think we will continue to see this coordination going forward.”

Visiting Lawyers Program: Building Relationships

For nearly 70 years, S&C's Visiting Lawyer Program has brought lawyers from around the world, including Latin America, to our Firm. During their one-year stay, they forge lasting ties with colleagues at our Firm, with everyone benefiting from the exchange of knowledge. Dozens of lawyers from Latin America have participated in the program over these decades, coming from Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Uruguay and other countries.

S&C's Visiting Lawyer Program helps us enhance the strong ties we have built with firms in the region. "Local relationships are absolutely critical in Latin America. You just can't do it on your own," says Sergio Galvis, the head of S&C's Latin America practice.

To learn more about our Visiting Lawyer Program, please visit [Sullivan & Cromwell LLP | Law Students and Law Clerks | Visiting Lawyers Program \(sullcrom.com\)](#).

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“Sullivan & Cromwell has built itself the enviable reputation among Latin American clients as the firm you call in when the stakes are high. . . . Having Sullivan & Cromwell on your side of the table promises an excellence of service and sends a powerful signal to the other side about your intentions.”

“The firm is a litigation powerhouse, representing Latin American companies facing litigation in the US.”

“Sullivan & Cromwell has a prestigious international arbitration practice that sees it working on complex disputes across the region.”

“The firm has a stellar reputation in the white-collar defence market. This practice area is gaining traction in Latin America, fueled by the steady addition of senior-level lawyers with global expertise that can be applied to the region.”



James Bromley

Co-head of Global Restructuring Practice
Columbia Law School, J.D.

[full bio>](#)

Werner Federico Ahlers

Co-head of Global Latin America Practice
Yale Law School, J.D.

[full bio>](#)

Fabio Weinberg Crocco

Stanford Law School, J.S.M.

[full bio>](#)

Jim Bromley, Werner Federico Ahlers and Fabio Weinberg Crocco:

Riding Economic Cycles of Restructurings

Volatile business cycles in Latin America have led to many notable restructurings of corporate and sovereign debt. "Disputes over restructurings are a natural part of the business cycle in Latin America," says Jim Bromley, the co-head of S&C's Global Restructuring practice, who has more than three decades experience with disputes in this region.

Recently, Jim led a team that advised the nation of Belize in a groundbreaking debt-for-nature swap, which *LatinFinance* named "Sovereign Restructuring of the Year." The Central American nation, whose tourism industry was devastated by COVID-19, restructured all of its \$550 million of debt and will use a significant portion of the savings to fund ocean conservation efforts.

The Belize debt swap was accomplished without litigation, but every restructuring by its nature requires the resolution of competing, often adversarial, interests. For example, Argentina's debt restructuring has sparked long-running lawsuits. Jim has also represented AT&T in a dispute arising out of its purchase of Nextel's Mexican operations in bankruptcy proceedings.

Werner Federico Ahlers, a native of Nicaragua who has lived in Chile, notes that S&C's restructuring lawyers don't operate

in a silo. "In the Belize restructuring, we pulled together lawyers from our Latin America, Sovereign Finance and Project Development & Finance practices to work with the Restructuring Group to find the best solution for the client." Werner is also advising clients in the region on how to protect themselves from potential political instability. "Companies that rely on concession regimes, such as in oil and gas and transportation, have seen jolts to their businesses and are vulnerable," he says.

Fabio Weinberg Crocco, a native of Brazil and an associate on this team, has been advising BHP Brazil in the judicial reorganization of Samarco Mineração, which is the largest ongoing bankruptcy in Brazil. After practicing in Brazil, he chose S&C over other U.S. firms because S&C trains lawyers to be well-rounded generalists. "I'm a huge believer in the generalist system," he says. "You become a better adviser when you're exposed to a range of issues."

Clients appreciate S&C's distinctive approach. "Our clients are immensely appreciative of the way in which we can provide integrated advice and present the whole picture," says Jim. "They want an adviser who can see around corners."



Renata Hesse

Co-head of Antitrust Group

University of California at Berkeley School of Law, J.D.

[full bio>](#)

Renata Hesse: Building Trust Through Antitrust

“Antitrust is at a real moment of inflection,” says S&C partner Renata Hesse, the co-head of the Firm’s Antitrust Group. “There’s a growing focus in Washington, D.C., and beyond, in particular on so-called ‘big tech.’ But even outside of tech, we’re seeing more uncertainty about both enforcement and regulation. These trends affect every company doing business in the United States, including our clients in Latin America who may be looking to expand their presence here.”

Renata became a partner at S&C after stints totaling 15 years in the U.S. Department of Justice’s Antitrust Division, during which she served as Acting Assistant Attorney General twice. Since joining the Firm, Renata has advised on antitrust matters spanning a range of industries, including tech, healthcare, transportation, retail and manufacturing. In one recent deal, she helped Argentina’s Tenaris obtain antitrust clearance for its \$1.2 billion acquisition of U.S. company IPSCO Tubulars.

In addition to advising clients on regulatory developments, Renata handles government investigations. She recently

advised Colombia’s Cementos Argos in a criminal antitrust investigation by the DOJ into the conduct of employees at a U.S. subsidiary acquired from another company, and helped it reach a favorable resolution.

Renata’s deep knowledge of antitrust laws makes her a sought-after advisor for clients around the world. The global nature of the Firm’s practice was part of what attracted her to S&C. “S&C has been working on global transactions for decades,” she comments. “It’s a true asset to our clients because if any issues come up, we’re so well positioned—we can tap into the knowledge of colleagues in 13 offices worldwide.”

When advising non-U.S. clients, Renata understands the importance of carefully explaining the U.S. regulatory process. Says Renata: “Taking the time with each client to make sure they understand what to expect is a key part of building lasting client relationships.”



Richard Pepperman II

University of Pennsylvania Law School, J.D.
Clerk, Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist,
United States Supreme Court
Clerk, The Honorable Edward R. Becker,
United States Court of Appeals, Third Circuit

[full bio>](#)

Richard Pepperman II: Forging Local Ties

When litigation partner **Rick Pepperman** represented Brazil's Banco Bradesco in U.S. securities litigation, he worked closely with local Brazilian counsel. "It was a great experience. Working with a leading local firm was absolutely essential, giving us people on the ground to follow up with and help us stay connected." After the case settled on favorable terms for the bank, Rick still enjoyed partnering with them. "We presented a program on class-action litigation with our Brazilian colleagues, and one of their associates became a visiting lawyer with S&C." He adds, "Having strong relationships with the top firms in Latin America is key to the success of this practice."

In the Banco Bradesco case, the alleged corruption underlying this litigation occurred in Brazil, but Banco Bradesco was sued in the United States because it had sold American Depositary Receipts that were traded on the New York Stock Exchange. By making a strong argument against class certification, Rick managed to settle the case before costly and time-consuming depositions were taken, which was important to the client.

Rick, who clerked for the late Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist of the U.S. Supreme Court, has a broad litigation practice that extends beyond Latin America and includes disputes involving antitrust, securities, M&A transactions and intellectual property. Like all S&C litigators, Rick was trained as a generalist, which gave him experience in nearly every type of litigation at every stage. "We firmly believe that this type of training and approach, which has become increasingly rare, produces the best counselors."

Looking ahead, Rick expects to see foreign issuers face more shareholder derivative suits in the United States, in which a shareholder attempts to sue officers and directors on behalf of the company. "If an issuer in Latin America had negative publicity around an event and its stock dropped, I would not be surprised if a derivative action is brought," he says. "Not only can we provide a strong defense, we can help companies prepare in advance for this possibility."



Brendan Cullen

Stanford Law School, J.D.
Clerk, The Honorable Clarence Thomas,
United States Supreme Court
Clerk, The Honorable Laurence Silberman,
United States Court of Appeals,
District of Columbia Circuit

[full bio>](#)



David Rein

Deputy Managing Partner,
Litigation Group
Columbia Law School, J.D.
The London School of Economics
and Political Science, M.Sc.
Clerk, The Honorable Paul Michel,
United States Court of Appeals,
Federal Circuit

[full bio>](#)

Brendan Cullen and David Rein: Taming Securities Litigation

Securities litigation, while a routine part of business for many U.S. companies, can be unfamiliar territory for companies in Latin America, where these types of claims are less common. “We have a lot of experience advising clients facing a securities case that is their first encounter with U.S. litigation,” says litigation partner Brendan Cullen, a former Supreme Court clerk who has authored a treatise chapter on how U.S. securities laws can apply to Latin American companies. His colleague,

litigation partner David Rein, who also serves as deputy managing partner of the Firm’s Litigation Group, adds that one thing that sets S&C apart is its ability to give clients a proactive roadmap: “We can advise them on how to avoid pitfalls that often lead to securities litigation and how to be prepared if it happens.”

As leading securities litigators, Brendan and David have obtained a string of successful results for Latin American companies. Clients include Ternium, the

leading flat and long steel manufacturer in Latin America; Grupo Mexico, the Mexican conglomerate with interests in mining, transportation and infrastructure; Volaris, the Mexican airline; and BHP Billiton, the Australian mining company with investments in Latin America. They expect to see more securities litigation matters out of this region.

“On the horizon, we expect more vigorous enforcement efforts by U.S. securities regulators, including enforcement actions against non-U.S. companies,” says David. “That often triggers more private investor claims.”

Brendan points to the rise in securities claims related to companies’ statements

about ESG goals. “As ESG disclosures become more important and prevalent, there are an increasing number of statements from companies that might appear inconsistent with later developments at those companies. This could give plaintiffs’ lawyers more opportunity to claim securities fraud on the theory that the prior statements were misleading. While we don’t have a crystal ball, it’s hard to imagine this is not a growth area.” Brendan adds: “When clients seek advice early, we can help them avoid or better navigate potential risks.”

Q&A

Associate Roundtable: The Next Generation

At **Sullivan & Cromwell**, our associates are an integral part of the multi-disciplinary teams that work on Latin American disputes. In a roundtable discussion, Sergio Galvis, the head of the Firm's Latin America practice, talked to four of our associates about their experiences working on these matters.

Sergio Galvis – S&C is different from many firms because we train associates to be generalists, which allows you to work on matters across different practice areas.

All of you have experiences with a range of litigation, but what do you enjoy about working on disputes connected to Latin America?

Arturo Carlos Schultz – I've worked on such a rich variety of matters: litigation for the Republic of Argentina; international arbitration related to the energy sector under Mexican law; representing bondholders of *Petróleos de Venezuela* in federal court, including a Third Circuit appeal; advising BP on class actions in Mexico; and the successful defense of a Delaware derivative action against *Grupo México*, among other matters. I enjoy this work because of its multifaceted nature. It requires a sophisticated understanding of the political and economic context that clients face, whether they're sovereign entities or private businesses.



Arturo Carlos Schultz



Sophie Kivett



Bebe Albornoz



Laura Pessarini

Sergio – While it's not required for this work, we're fortunate to have several lawyers with ties to the region. My family is Colombian and Arturo's family is from Venezuela and Puerto Rico. Bebe's mother is from Cuba and her father is from Venezuela; Sophie was a Latin American Studies major in college; and Laura is from Argentina and started as a Visiting Lawyer with us before becoming an associate. How have you found those connections to be helpful in your practices?

Sophie Kivett – I spent three years in Buenos Aires. My language skills flourished and I really loved it there. That has allowed me to work on arbitrations conducted in Spanish, and I've also worked on litigation for Argentina and the Interim Government of Venezuela. I've developed an understanding of the different procedures and strategies for U.S. court litigation compared to international arbitrations.

Sergio – This type of professional and cultural fluidity is a significant asset for our clients. A major reason that our litigators are so effective is that they can contextualize every matter to the specific circumstances of the region. Clients also need lawyers that can analyze how legal concepts are expressed in civil law jurisdictions, where they apply principles similar to the United States but have different jurisdictional emphasis and focus. What else do you think sets our Latin America practice apart?



Sergio Galvis

Bebe Albornoz – The partners we work with are so versatile. When I worked on an arbitration in Mexico, I observed how they tailored their expertise to the client. They also worked closely with a leading local law firm and showed a willingness to learn and listen, which I've tried to emulate. I'm also working on litigation matters for the Republic of Argentina, which raises fascinating issues of how the law applies to sovereign nations.

Sergio – Laura, you started with us as a Visiting Lawyer from Argentina before becoming an associate. What stands out about your experience?

Laura Pessarini – I felt integrated with the S&C family from the first day. S&C does a great job getting visiting lawyers involved with matters where they will be able to put their experience in their home countries to use and learn from S&C's sophisticated teams of lawyers. Being part of the Visiting Lawyers program was also remarkable because I met colleagues from all over the world and we created a network that will surely last for years.

S&C advised the nation of Belize in a groundbreaking debt-for-nature swap, which LatinFinance named "Sovereign Restructuring of the Year." The Central American nation, whose tourism industry was devastated by COVID-19, restructured all of its \$550 million of debt and will use a significant portion of the savings to fund ocean conservation efforts.

Recent Representations

Alperton Capital on arbitration matters during the \$1.5 billion global restructuring of Brazilian oil and gas services group Constellation

Argos USA, the U.S. subsidiary of Colombia-based **Cementos Argos**, in favorably resolving a DOJ criminal antitrust investigation, and in related antitrust class action litigation

Banco Santander on litigation involving co-branded credit card agreement

BHP Brazil on the judicial reorganization of Samarco Mineração

BP on litigation and investigations arising out of the February 2021 winter storm in Texas, including advising BP in disputes with Mexican counterparties over gas contracts

CODELCO, the Chilean copper mining company, in arbitration against Ecuador and its state-owned mining company arising from one of the largest copper mining projects in the world

FCPA investigation – Representing a major medical device company on an inquiry relating to its business in South America

FIFA investigations – Advising a financial institution with banking relationships with persons and entities connected to the FIFA investigations

Interim Government and the National Assembly of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in arbitration and dispute matters

Republic of Argentina in litigation over sovereign debt and YPF expropriation

Republic of Belize in innovative debt-for-nature swap to restructure all \$550 million of its debt

Securities Litigation for **Banco Bradesco**, **BHP Billiton**, **Grupo México**, **Tenaris**, **Ternium** and **Volaris**

Sempra Energy affiliate in obtaining a favorable award in an ICC arbitration involving a dispute with customers arising from an LNG liquefaction project in Mexico.

Tenaris in a settlement with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission

Chambers USA (2022)

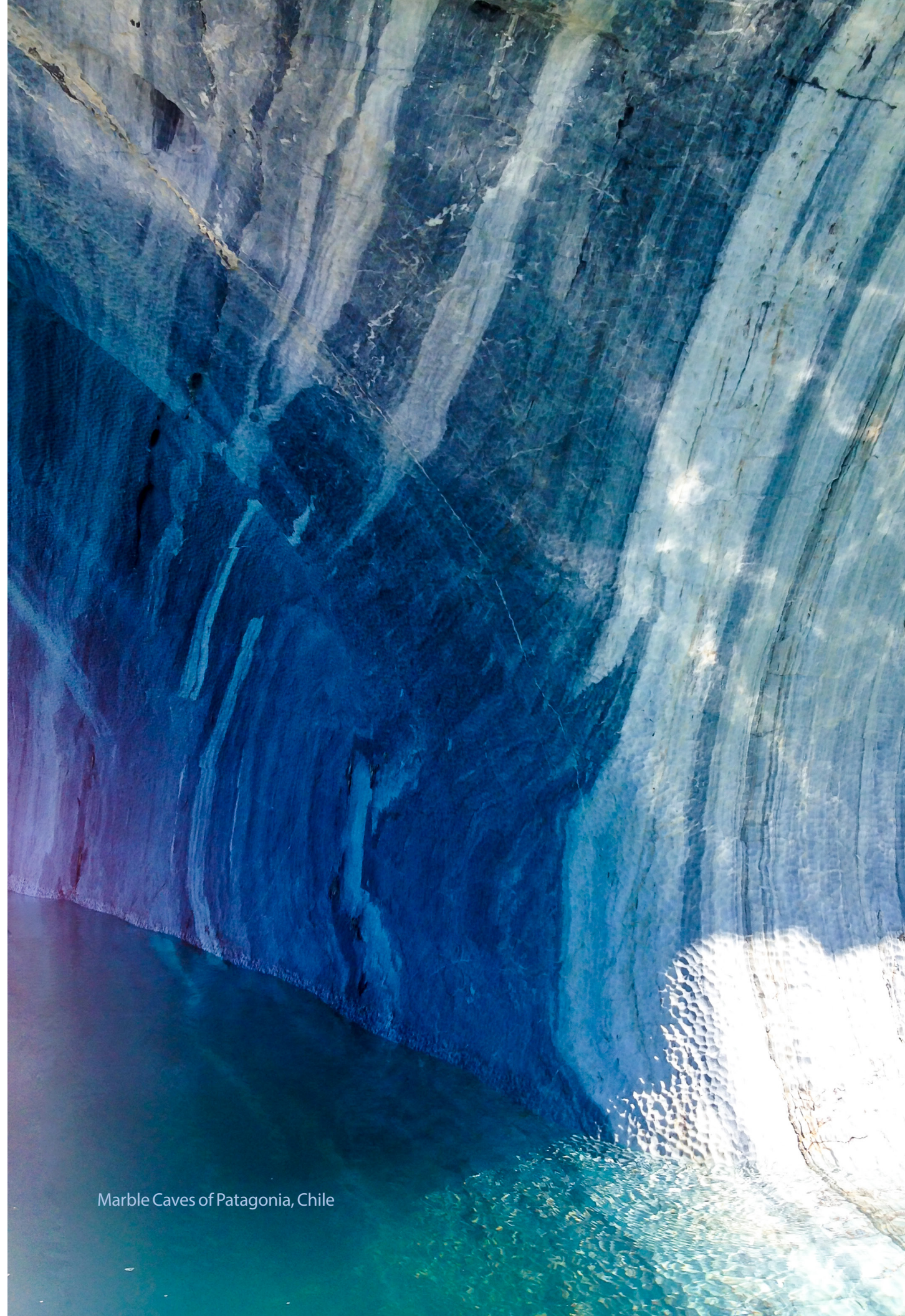
Band 1

- General Commercial Litigation
- Securities Litigation
- Labor & Employment
- White Collar Crime & Government Investigations
- Corporate Crime & Investigations
- Banking Enforcement & Investigations

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“I can call them at any time and get the work product that I need. They tailor their availability to our needs, which is fantastic.”

— *Chambers Global 2022*



Marble Caves of Patagonia, Chile

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