



## LIST OF ATTORNEYS

FOR THE CONSULAR DISTRICT OF SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA  
EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Ph: (506) 2519 2000, Fax (506) 2519-2099

[ACSSANJOSE@STATE.GOV](mailto:ACSSANJOSE@STATE.GOV)

(Last updated June 2015)



The following is a list of attorneys, law firms (“Bufete,” the term used in Costa Rica for the law firms), and other available legal aid licensed to practice in Costa Rica.

The purpose of this document is to provide you with assistance and guidance regarding professionals and institutions that might be helpful to you in case you need legal assistance and don’t know where to start. Even though we attempt to include only professionals of impeccable reputation in this list, neither the Department of State nor the US Embassy may assume any responsibility for the quality of services provided.

It is important to point out that attorneys in Costa Rica only have minimum fees that they must respect.

**DISCLAIMER:** The U.S. Embassy in San José, Costa Rica assumes no responsibility or liability for the professional ability or reputation of, or the quality of services provided by, the following persons or firms. Inclusion on this list is in no way an endorsement by the Department of State or the U.S. Embassy. Names are listed alphabetically, and the order in which they appear has no other significance. The information in the list on professional credentials, areas of expertise and language ability are provided directly by the lawyers; the Embassy is not in a position to vouch for such information. You may receive additional information about the individuals on the list by contacting the local bar association (or its equivalent) or the local licensing authorities.

You may receive **additional information** about the individuals or firms by contacting the:

***Colegio de Abogados y Abogadas de Costa Rica*** (Bar Association) (506) 2202-3600

Address: From the Social Guarantees roundabout 200 meters West, 100 meters North.

(De la Rotonda de las Garantías Sociales, 200 metros al oeste y 100 metros al norte).

Webpage: <http://www.abogados.or.cr>

The Colegio de Abogados has a Pro Bono Program with some law firms or individual attorneys. We encourage you to ask them for more information.

OR

**Dirección General de Notariado** (National Notary Directorate)

Ph: (506) 2528-5756

Address: West side of Mall San Pedro, Oficentro Sigma Business Center, Building A, 5° floor.

(Costado oeste del Mall San Pedro, Oficentro Sigma, Edificio A, 5to piso).

Webpage: <http://consulta.dnn.go.cr>

**Official translations, stenographers and court reporters:** To find official translators, visit the Ministry of Foreign Affairs's website (*Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores*) at [www.rree.go.cr](http://www.rree.go.cr). The U.S. Embassy does not offer translating or interpreting services. There are no stenographers or court reporters in Costa Rica. If you need transcripts of court proceedings, you will have to hire your own reporter from the U.S.

**Legal assistance overseas:** At the end of this document there are several recommendations on how to retain an attorney overseas.

**Legal aid in Costa Rica:**

**1. Consultorios Jurídicos (Universidad de Costa Rica):**

Telefax: (506) 2511-5668,

Webpage: <http://derecho.ucr.ac.cr/Consultorios>

**2. Public defenders (Defensores Públicos):**

Address: Streets 11 and 13, 2nd Avenue, San Jose.

(Calles 11 y 13, Avenida Segunda. San José).

Ph: (506) 2211-9800,

Email : [defensapublica@poder-judicial.go.cr](mailto:defensapublica@poder-judicial.go.cr).

Webpage : <http://www.poder-judicial.go.cr/defensapublica>

**3. Casas de la Justicia:** <http://www.mjp.go.cr/>

**4. Fundacion de Apoyo al Hombre:**

Address : Guadalupe, from Rostipollos 100 mts. South and 100 East.

(Guadalupe, de Rostipollos 100 al sur y 100 al este).

Phone : 2222-0614

Email: [fundiapho@gmail.com](mailto:fundiapho@gmail.com)

**5. Instituto Nacional de la Mujer (INAMU):**

Webpage : [www.inamu.go.cr](http://www.inamu.go.cr)

**6. Defensoría de los Habitantes :**

Address: Barrio México, Street 22, Avenue 7 y 11

(Barrio México, calle 22 y avenidas 7 y 11)  
Ph: (506) 4000-8500  
Webpage : <http://www.dhr.go.cr>  
Email : [defensoria@dhr.go.cr](mailto:defensoria@dhr.go.cr)

### **Victims of Crime:**

If you are a victim of crime and remain in Costa Rica, please go to the nearest OIJ (acronym of Costa Rica's Judicial Police "Organismo de Investigación Judicial") office to file a formal complaint. If you are a tourist, you may also go to their headquarters in San Jose, even if the crime took place in another part of the country.

If you are a victim of crime and would like to present a complaint but you are already back in the United States, please contact the nearest Costa Rican Consulate to file a formal complaint. Before your appointment at the Consulate, please seek guidance from the local prosecutors on the best way to do this. The office in charge of assisting you is the Office of Technical Advice and International Relations of the Attorney General's Office (Oficina de Asesoría Técnica y Relaciones Internacionales de la Fiscalía General de la República.) It is known as "OATRI," its Spanish acronym. OATRI's email address is: [oatri-mp@poder-judicial.go.cr](mailto:oatri-mp@poder-judicial.go.cr). Its telephone number is (506) 22 95-3458.

As a victim, you may contact the Office for Victims Assistance and Protection of the Public Ministry for support, for security, and for guidance on how to proceed, and to present your complaint. They have attorneys, psychologists and social workers. The Public Ministry is the prosecutors' office headed by the Attorney General and belongs to the Judicial Branch (in Spanish "Oficina de Atención y Protección a la Víctima del Ministerio Público", Poder Judicial)

Email: [victimadelito@poder-judicial.go.cr](mailto:victimadelito@poder-judicial.go.cr). English is spoken.

Address: 50 meters southeast from Fundación Omar Dengo, Barrio Francisco Peralta, Avenues 10 y 12, Street 25, San José.

(50 metros sureste de la Fundación Omar Dengo, Barrio Francisco Peralta, Avenidad 10 y 12, calle 25)

Telephone: (506) 2253-2935 or 2253-2944.

### **Compensation/civil actions:**

The Public Ministry (Prosecutors' Office), which belongs to the Judicial Branch, can assist victims with the civil aspects of a criminal process. It is called "Oficina de Defensa Civil de la Víctima" (Victims' Civil Defense Office), and its role is to assist victims of crime with the compensation process that could be reviewed in a criminal case. The Prosecutor's Office will assign a special prosecutor to address the civil issues of a case, different from the prosecutor in charge of the criminal part of the process. The victim needs to qualify to receive their services based on earnings.

Address: 1st Judicial Circuit of San Jose, Tribunal Building, second floor. Gonzalez Lahman.

Edificio de los Tribunales de Justicia del Primer Circuito Judicial de San José, Segundo Piso, Barrio González Lahman.

Web site: [http://ministeriopublico.poder-judicial.go.cr/servicios/defensa\\_victima.html](http://ministeriopublico.poder-judicial.go.cr/servicios/defensa_victima.html)

Telephone: (506) 2295-4458

### Sources for information about Attorneys in the United States:

1. American Bar Association
2. ABA Lawyer Referral Directory
3. ABA State and Local Bar Association Directory
4. ABA Pro Bono and Public Service
5. ABA Consumers Guide to Legal Help
6. ABA Hiring a Lawyer
7. ABA Using a Lawyer
8. ABA Paying a Lawyer
9. ABA International
10. Business.gov Hiring a Lawyer
11. Martindale-Hubbell Lawyer Locator
12. American Academy of Matrimonial Attorneys Directory
13. National Institute of Military Justice

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### Attorneys in Costa Rica:

#### **ABARCA EDUARDO**

Education: Law School, University Latina of Costa Rica.

Areas of Practice: Business, Civil and Real Estate law; Notary Services.

Established: 1999.

Languages: Spanish, English.

Geographical areas: Uvita, Osa, Puntarenas.

Address: Uvita, Osa, Puntarenas, 1400 meters south, 200 meters west and 150 meters south of the Uvita river bridge.

Telephone: (506) 2743-8345; cell: (506) 8811-6137; fax: (506) 2771-5855 / 2743-8345.

E-mail: [edabarca@racsa.co.cr](mailto:edabarca@racsa.co.cr)

Skype account: [eduardo.abarca.vargas](https://www.skype.com/people/eduardo.abarca.vargas)

#### **ACUÑA, EWALD - Bufete Acuña & Asociados**

Education: Law School, Universidad de Costa Rica.

Areas of Practice: Criminal law.

Established: 1993

Languages: Spanish, English

Associations: Universidad Latinoamericana de Ciencia y Tecnología (ULACIT), Profesor.

Geographical areas: All country.

Address: Street 17 Avenue 2, N° 207, Boulevard Ricardo Jiménez Oreamuno, San José.

Telephone: (506) 2221-0320; (506) 2258-4256; fax: (506) 2221-4028.

E-mail: [eacuna@acunalaw.com](mailto:eacuna@acunalaw.com)

## **ACZALAW CENTRAL AMERICAN LAW FIRM**

Responsible Partners: OSWALD A. BRUCE; MICHAEL J. BRUCE

Partners' Education: Law School, University Escuela Libre de Derecho, Law School, Universidad de Costa Rica

Areas of Practice: Business, Corporate, Commercial, Civil, Labor, Customs, Consumer Law; Immigration, Agency & Distribution Agreements; Alternative Dispute Resolution; Intellectual Property; Collection; Notary; Investments & Off Shore Corporations; Foreign Investment; Mergers & Acquisitions; Civil & Commercial litigation; Taxation; Real Estate; Bankruptcy; Telecommunications & Energy.

Established: 1998

Languages: Spanish, English

Association of partners: International Bar Association

Geographical Areas: Entire country, Central America and Panama.

Address: From the Contraloría General de la República 3 blocks south, 75 mts. east, Sabana Sur, San José

Telephone: (506) 2296-5656; cell: (506) 8830-4400; (506) 8811-2589; fax: (506) 2296-2828

E-mail: [mbruce@aczalaw.com](mailto:mbruce@aczalaw.com), [obruce@aczalaw.com](mailto:obruce@aczalaw.com) [costarica@aczalaw.com](mailto:costarica@aczalaw.com)

Website: [www.aczalaw.com](http://www.aczalaw.com)

## **AG ABOGADOS**

Responsible Partners: GONZALO GUTIERREZ ACEVEDO; EDUARDO ARAYA VEGA

Contact person: Gonzalo Gutiérrez Acevedo

Partners' Education: Law School, University Autónoma of Central America and Universidad de Costa Rica

Areas of Practice: Criminal, Investment, Corporate, Financial, Litigation and Arbitration, Outsourcing, Migratory, Labor, and Intellectual Property law; Notary Services and Estate Planning

Established: 1996

Languages: Spanish, English

Association of partners: Law Firm Network; Inter America Bar Association

Geographical areas: San Jose

Address: Street 29, Avenue 7, Office #2910, San Jose

Telephone: (506) 2257-0006; fax: (506) 2258-1535

E-mail: [info@ag-abogados.net](mailto:info@ag-abogados.net)

Skype Account: [ag\\_abogados1](https://www.skype.com/user/ag_abogados1)

Website: [www.ag-abogados.net](http://www.ag-abogados.net)

## **AGÜERO GUIER, ESTEBAN - Aguilar Castillo Love**

Education: Georgetown University Law Center; University of Barcelona; Universidad de Costa Rica

Areas of Practice: Foreign Trade and Investment Law; Antitrust; International Arbitration; Energy and Telecommunications Law

Established: 2002

Languages: Spanish, English and French

Associations: Costa Rican Bar Association; American Bar Association; Amcham

Geographical Areas: All Central America

Address: Plaza Roble, Escazu, San José, Costa Rica.

Telephone: (506) 2201-5476; cell: (506) 6059-1477; fax: (506) 2222-9653.

E-mail: [eag@aguilarcastillolove.com](mailto:eag@aguilarcastillolove.com)

Skype account: [estebag](https://www.skype.com/user/estebag)

Website: <http://www.aguilarcastillolove.com>

## **AGUILAR CASTILLO LOVE**

Responsible Partners: JOHN AGUILAR-QUESADA and MARCO SOLANO-GOMEZ

Contact person: Marco Solano-Gómez

Partners' Education: Autonomous University of Central America and Harvard Law School / Universidad de Costa Rica and Georgetown University Law Center

Areas of Practice: Corporate, M&A, Foreign Direct Investment, Litigation, Investor State Dispute Resolution, Arbitration, Tax, Government Affairs, Notary Services

Established: 1967

Languages: Spanish and English

Geographical areas: San Jose, Costa Rica and all of Central America

Address: Oficentro Plaza Roble, El Pórtico Building, third floor, Escazú, San José

Telephone: (506) 2222-3838 or (506) 2223-3838; fax: (506) 2222-9653

E-mail: [jaq@aguilarcastillolove.com](mailto:jaq@aguilarcastillolove.com) and [msg@aguilarcastillolove.com](mailto:msg@aguilarcastillolove.com)

Website: [www.aguilarcastillolove.com](http://www.aguilarcastillolove.com)

### **ARA LAW ATTORNEYS AT LAW**

Responsible Partners: ALEJANDRO RODRIGUEZ CASTRO; MONICA ROMAN JACOBO

Contact person: Alejandro Rodríguez Castro.

Partners' Education: University of Costa Rica, ULACIT, Universidad Autónoma de Centroamérica, INCAE

Areas of Practice: Foreign investment in business development, Commercial and Corporate law, Tax law, Customs and Free Trade Zone, Immigration law, Intellectual Property, Real Estate and Notarial Services, Public law (administrative and constitutional law), Telecommunications, Banking, Criminal, Labor and Civil law, Litigation and Arbitration, Competition (antitrust), Administrative Services: Payroll and accounting services.

Languages: Spanish, English, French, Portuguese.

Association of partners: ALFA International Global Legal Network, Tax & Labor, International Bar Association (IBA), International Trademark Association (INTA), AMCHAM Costa Rican-American Chamber of Commerce, Asociación Interamericana de Propiedad Intelectual (ASIPI), Asociación Costarricense de Derecho Administrativo (ASCODA), Alliance of Business Immigration Lawyers (ABIL).

Geographical areas: Costa Rica and the rest of Central America.

Address: ARALAW Building: 125 North of "Torre La Sabana", Sabana Norte. San José, Costa Rica.

Telephone: (506) 2291-8844; fax: (506) 2291-8839

E-mail: [arc@aralaw.cr](mailto:arc@aralaw.cr) ; [mrj@aralaw.cr](mailto:mrj@aralaw.cr)

Website: [www.aralaw.cr](http://www.aralaw.cr)

### **ARIAS & MUÑOZ, Bufete**

Responsible Partners: JOSE ANTONIO MUÑOZ and PEDRO MUÑOZ

Contact person: José Antonio Muñoz

Partners' Education: Law School, Universidad de Costa Rica

Areas of Practice: Corporate and Commercial, International Trade, Foreign Investments, Free Zones, and Government Affairs.

Established: 1942

Languages: Spanish, English, French, German, Portuguese, Italian, Russian and Mandarin.

Association of partners: President, Costa Rican-American Chamber of Commerce (2011-2012). Member, Association of American Chambers of Commerce in Latin America. (AACCLA). Member, American Bar Association and ABA International Law Section (2004). Member, ABA, Law Practice Management Core Group (2003-Present). Founding Member of the Board of Directors, Fulbright Foundation Costa Rica (1998- Present).

Geographical areas: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, Nicaragua, and Panama

Address: Centro Empresarial Forum 1, Building C Office 1C1 Phone: (506) 2503-9800; fax: (506) 2204-7580

E-mail: [jmunoz@ariaslaw.co.cr](mailto:jmunoz@ariaslaw.co.cr); [pmunoz@ariaslaw.co.cr](mailto:pmunoz@ariaslaw.co.cr); [marketing@ariaslaw.co.cr](mailto:marketing@ariaslaw.co.cr)

Skype Account: Jmunoz-sjo

Website: [www.ariaslaw.com](http://www.ariaslaw.com)

### **ASESORES LEGALES EN PROPIEDAD INDUSTRIAL ("ALPI")**

Responsible Partners: LUIS DIEGO ACUÑA DELCORE; ANA LORENA VEGA VEGA

Contact person: Luis Diego Acuna Delcore

Partners' Education: Law School, Universidad de Costa Rica; New York University, U.S.A.; International Institute of Human Rights, France.

Areas of Practice: Patent & Trademark Law, Intellectual Property, Real Estate, Litigation, Dispute Resolution, Corporate Law, Labor, Banking, Immigration, Customs, International Trade, Transportation, Torts, Notary Services

Established: 1956.

Languages: Spanish, English

Association of partners: International Trademark Association, American Bar Association, Isoc Internet Society, Camtic

Geographical areas: Entire country

Address: Avenue 7, Streets 25 & 29, #2524, San Jose

Telephone: (506) 2221-9058; cell: (506) 6049-2341; fax: (506) 2222-6054

E-mail: [Info@AcunaLegal.com](mailto:Info@AcunaLegal.com); [LDAcuna@AcunaLegal.com](mailto:LDAcuna@AcunaLegal.com)

Skype Account: Idacuna

Website: [www.alpilaw.com](http://www.alpilaw.com)

## **BATALLA ABOGADOS**

Responsible Partners: MARIANO BATALLA and RODRIGO ZELAYA

Contact Person: Mariano Batalla

Education: Universidad de Costa Rica, Harvard University, The Fletcher School, Indiana University.

Areas of Practice: Business and Transactional Law, Dispute Resolution, International Trade, Public Law and Compliance, Competition & Consumer Protection.

Established: 2001.

Languages: English, Spanish, Portuguese, French, German.

Professional Associations: International Bar Association, Lawyers Associated Worldwide, Latin American Venture Capital Association.

Geographical Areas: Central America.

Address: Batalla Building, Héctor Murillo Street, Barrio Escalante, San José.

Telephone: +506 2280 8880; Fax: +506 2280 7543

E-mail: [mbatalla@batalla.com](mailto:mbatalla@batalla.com)

Skype account: BatallaAbogados

Website: [www.batalla.com](http://www.batalla.com)

## **BLANCO PAEZ, ARTURO - Jurexlaw**

Education: Law School, Universidad de Costa Rica.

Areas of Practice: Estate law, Master in Business Law; Master in tax law; Notarial Services

Established: 1987

Languages: Spanish, English

Associations: Law firm of the Americas, Instituto Derecho Notarial, Arbitration Chamber of Commerce

Geographical areas: San Jose

Address: Curridabat, North side of Plaza Cristal, San Jose

Telephone: (506) 2283-2020; fax: (506) 2283-0659.

E-mail: [arturoblanco@jurexlaw.co,m](mailto:arturoblanco@jurexlaw.co,m)

Skype account: artblanco

Website: [www.arturoblancolaw.com](http://www.arturoblancolaw.com)

## **BLP ABOGADOS**

Responsible Partners: LUIS MANUEL CASTRO; DAVID GUTIERREZ SWANSON

Contact person: David Gutierrez

Partners' Education: Law School, Universidad de Costa Rica; Law School, Georgetown University Law Center

Areas of Practice: Corporate, Civil, Labor, Tax, Criminal, Financial, IP, Telecommunications, Infrastructure, Litigation, Arbitration, Consumer law, Real Estate and Administrative law; Notary Services; Real Estate, Insurances, IP.

Established: 2003

Languages: Spanish, English

Association of partners: American Bar Association; International Bar Association; Urban Land Institute; New York Bar Association; American Chamber of Commerce

Geographical areas: San Jose, Los Sueños, Guanacaste, Costa Rica

Address: Via Lindora Business Center, BLP Abogados Building, 4<sup>th</sup> floor, Radial Santa Ana- Belen, 3km, San José, Costa Rica  
Telephone: (506) 2205-3990; cell: (506) 6050-2015; 8831-0743; fax: (506) 2205-3940  
E-mail: [lcastro@blpabogados.com](mailto:lcastro@blpabogados.com); [dgutierrez@blpabogados.com](mailto:dgutierrez@blpabogados.com)  
Website: [www.blpabogados.com](http://www.blpabogados.com)

**BOYD SALAS, GABRIEL - Link Law Costa Rica**

Education: Law School, Universidad de Costa Rica. Phd International Law Universidad Libre de Derecho  
Areas of Practice: international, immigration, business law, labor.  
Established: 1993  
Languages: Spanish, English, Italian  
Associations: CCI, Camara de Comercio de Costa Rica, IBA  
Geographical areas: San José  
Address: Zapote, from the "Mangos Park" 100 meters South and 25 meters East.  
Telephone: (506) 83466388; cell: (506) 87127926; fax: (506) 22832692.  
E-mail: [gboyd@linklawcr.com](mailto:gboyd@linklawcr.com)

**BURKE & BURKE Attorneys/Abogados**

Responsible Partners: THOMAS BURKE-MAESSEN, GLENDA BURKE-QUIROS  
Contact person: Thomas Burke-Maessen  
Partners' Education: Universidad Autónoma de Centro América, Universidad de Costa Rica  
Areas of Practice: Real Estate, Corporate-Business, Immigration, Estate Planning.  
Established: 1989  
Languages: English, Spanish, German, French.  
Geographical areas: San José, Heredia, Guanacaste, Osa.  
Address: Residencial El Monte, #B8, San Rafael de Heredia  
Telephone: (506) 2267-6645; Cell: (506) 8341-4100; Fax: (506) 2267-6646  
E-mail: [contact@burkecr.com](mailto:contact@burkecr.com)  
Website: [www.burkecr.com](http://www.burkecr.com)

**CAMPOS CALDERÓN, J. FEDERICO - LEXPENAL Abogados**

Education: Law School: Escuela Libre de Derecho, Universidad de Costa Rica. University of Salamanca, Spain.  
Areas of Practice: Criminal law.  
Established: 1995  
Languages: Spanish, English  
Associations: Asociación de Ciencias Penales de Costa Rica - Instituto Iberoamericano de Derecho Procesal.  
Geographical areas: San Jose, Alajuela, Cartago, Heredia, Guanacaste, Puntarenas y Limón  
Address: San José. From POPS Curridabat, 100 mts East and 325 mts North. Right hand.  
Telephone: (506) 2280-7060; fax: (506) 2280-6655.  
E-mail: [info@lexpenal.cr](mailto:info@lexpenal.cr) / [jfcampos@lexpenal.cr](mailto:jfcampos@lexpenal.cr)  
Website: [www.lexpenal.cr](http://www.lexpenal.cr)

**CARRO SOLERA, ALFONSO – Central Law Quiros Abogados**

Education: Law School, Universidad de Costa Rica; Nova Southeastern University, FLA., USA Msc. Conflict Analysis and Resolution; University of Salamanca, Spain; Post Graduate Studies in Labor Law.  
Areas of Practice: Labor & Employment Law  
Established: 1987  
Languages: Spanish, English  
Associations: *Costa Rican Labor Law Association; Human Resources Committee, AMERICAN CHAMBER (AMCHAM); Social Development Committee, UCCAEP (Costa Rican Employers Association)*  
Geographical areas: Costa Rica all over.  
Address: Street 37<sup>th</sup> bis, Avenues 10th-12<sup>th</sup>, San Jose  
Telephone: (506) 2224-7800; 2283-1036; ext. 117; cell: (506) 8911-4388; fax: (506) 2224-5946.  
E-mail: [acarro@quiroslaw.com](mailto:acarro@quiroslaw.com); [acarro@central-law.com](mailto:acarro@central-law.com)

Website: [www.quiroslaw.com](http://www.quiroslaw.com)

### **CENTRAL LAW – QUIROS ABOGADOS**

Responsible Partners: RAFAEL QUIROS BUSTAMANTE, MAURICIO QUIROS GONZALEZ

Contact person: Rafael Quirós

Partners' Education: Law School, Universidad de Costa Rica

Areas of Practice: Corporate, Insurance, Tax, Real Estate, Criminal, Civil, Labor, Family law, Maritime Zone, Public Law and Public Procurement, Intellectual Property, Environmental Law Practice and Migratory Law; Notary Services

Established: 1985

Languages: Spanish, English, and French.

Association of partners: AM CHAM, Cámara de Comercio de Costa Rica, and International Bar Association.

Geographical areas: San José

Address: Street 37, Avenue 10, San José, Los Yoses

Telephone: (506) 2224-7800; cell: (506) 2224-7800; fax: (506) 2234-7335

E-mail: [rquiros@quiroslaw.com](mailto:rquiros@quiroslaw.com); [mquiros@quiroslaw.com](mailto:mquiros@quiroslaw.com)

Website: [www.quiroslaw.com](http://www.quiroslaw.com); [www.central-law.com](http://www.central-law.com)

### **CERDAS PEREZ JORGE - HFC Abogados**

Education: Universidad de Costa Rica.

Areas of Practice: Commercial, Civil and Agrarian (Properties) law; Notary Services

Established: 1994

Languages: Spanish, English, French

Geographical areas: All around the country

Address: Street 31, Avenue 7 y 9, Home #739, San José, Costa Rica.

Telephone: (506)22345301 (506) 2234-5304, cell (506) 8702-4597 fax: (506) 2234-5352

E-mail: [jcerdas@gmail.com](mailto:jcerdas@gmail.com)

Skype account: jorgecerdas1

Website: <http://golegalcr.weebly.com>

### **CHACÓN HERNÁNDEZ, ROLANDO ALBERTO - Chacón & Chacón Abogados**

Education: Universidad Autónoma de Centro América

Areas of Practice: Foreign Investment; Civil; Environmental; Antitrust & Competition; Commercial, Business, Corporate, & Constitutional Law; Franchises; Mergers & Acquisitions; Telecommunications; Energy; Transportation; Notary Services

Languages: Spanish, English

Geographical areas: San José, Heredia, Alajuela and Cartago

Address: (Mailing) P.O. Box 740-1007, San José; (Location) Chacón y Chacón - Abogados, Rohrmoser, from US Embassy, 5 blocks north, 25 mts. east, left-hand side

Telephone: (506) 2296-5810; cell: (506) 8384-0771; fax: (506) 2220-4926

E-mail: [rolando.chacon@chacon-law.com](mailto:rolando.chacon@chacon-law.com)

Website: [www.chacon-law.com](http://www.chacon-law.com)

### **CHACÓN MURILLO, ROLANDO - Chacón & Chacón Abogados**

Education: Universidad de Costa Rica

Areas of Practice: Real Estate Transactions & Development, Business, Corporate, Civil, & Commercial Law; Arbitration; Mergers & Acquisitions; Labor; Intellectual Property; Foreign Investment; Notary Services

Languages: Spanish, English

Geographical areas: San José, Heredia, Alajuela and Cartago

Address: (Mailing) P.O. Box 740-1007, San José; (Location) Chacón & Chacón - Abogados, Rohrmoser, from US Embassy, 5 blocks north, 25 meters east, left hand side

Telephone: (506) 2296-5810; cell: (506) 8380-2824; fax: (506) 2220-4926

E-mail: [rolando.chacon.m@chacon-law.com](mailto:rolando.chacon.m@chacon-law.com)

Website: [www.chacon-law.com](http://www.chacon-law.com)

## **CONSORTIUM LACLE & GUTIERREZ**

Responsible Partners: ROLANDO LACLE ZUÑIGA; DAVID ARTURO CAMPOS BRENES

Contact person: Oscar Céspedes Rodríguez

Partners' Education: Law School, Universidad de Costa Rica; Law School Universidad Autónoma de Centroamérica

Areas of Practice: Corporate, Real Estate, Banking and Finance, Labor Law, Litigation and Arbitration, Insurance and Reassurance, Intellectual Property, Administrative Law.

Established: 1997

Languages: Spanish, English

Geographical areas: San José, Liberia

Address: Central Office, Costa Rica, Escazú, to Tony Romas restaurant, 600 meter to west.

Telephone: (506) 2257-3553; fax: (506) 2255-1398

E-mail: [rlaclec@consortiumlegal.com](mailto:rlaclec@consortiumlegal.com) ; [dacampos@consortiumlegal.com](mailto:dacampos@consortiumlegal.com)

Website: [www.consortiumlegal.com](http://www.consortiumlegal.com)

## **CORDERO & CORDERO ABOGADOS**

Responsible Partners: RICARDO CORDERO BALTODANO; HERNAN CORDERO MADURO

Partners' Education: Universidad de Costa Rica, San José, Costa Rica; Georgetown University, Washington D.C., USA;

Instituto de Empresas, Madrid, España; Escuela Libre de Derecho, Costa Rica; Universidad Latina, Costa Rica; etc.

Areas of Practice: Foreign Investment; Free Trade Zone; Real Estate; Corporate Law; Commercial Law; Immigration; Banking and Finance; Insurance Law; Labor Law; Family Law; Civil Litigation and Arbitration; Energy Law;

Established: 1940

Languages: Spanish, English, Italian, French

Association of partners: International Lawyers Network ([www.iln.com](http://www.iln.com)); Buy USA – Department of Commerce

([www.buyusa.gov](http://www.buyusa.gov)); American Bar Association ([www.abanet.org](http://www.abanet.org)), Inter American Bar Association, Chambers & Partners

([www.chambersandpartners.com](http://www.chambersandpartners.com)); The Legal 500 ([www.thelegal500.com](http://www.thelegal500.com))

Geographical areas: San José, Guanacaste,

Address: San José: Don Bosco Neighborhood, Ave 2 y Street 26, Corner Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor; Guanacaste: Liberia, Plaza Futura Office Building;

Telephone: +1 (506) 2258-2525; cell: +1 (506) 8820-1538; fax: +1 (506) 2258-3820

E-mail: [rbc@corderoabogados.com](mailto:rbc@corderoabogados.com)

Website: [www.corderoabogados.com](http://www.corderoabogados.com)

## **DIVIMARK**

Partners: MANUEL E. PERALTA and MARIANELLA ARIAS

Contact persons: Manuel E. Peralta; Marianella Arias; Milena Peralta.

Partners Education: Universidad de Costa Rica Law School and Autonomous University Central America Law School.

Specializations covered: Intellectual Property, Unfair Competition, Business & Real Estate Law and Litigation.

Law firm established in: 1978.

Languages: Spanish, English, German, Italian.

Association of partners: International Trademark Association (INTA); Inter-American Association of Industrial Property (ASIPI); Asociación de Profesionales en Propiedad Intelectual de Costa Rica (APPICR).

Geographical areas: San José.

Address: Ave 1, Street 3, Centro Omni, 8<sup>th</sup> floor, San José, Costa Rica

Telephone: (506) 2222-8622; Fax: (506) 2255-2174.

Cel: (506) 8381-0612; (506) 8344-8865; (506) 8814-7510.

E-mail: [info@divimark.com](mailto:info@divimark.com); [mperalta@divimark.com](mailto:mperalta@divimark.com); [marias@divimark.com](mailto:marias@divimark.com); [milenaperalta@divimark.com](mailto:milenaperalta@divimark.com)

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## **FH LEGAL - Anteriormente FACIO ABOGADOS**

Responsible Partners: ROBERTO FACIO SÁENZ – ALEJANDRO PIGNATARO MADRIGAL

Contact person: Roberto Facio Sáenz

Partners Education: Universidad de Costa Rica, Attorney at Law, University of Ottawa, Canada (Master Courses in Business Law) / and Universidad de Costa Rica, Attorney at Law, Boston University, LL. M. in American Law with a concentration in International Business Practice.

Areas of Practice: Administrative Law, Asset Tracing & Recovery, Corporate Law, International Trade and Investment, Labor and Immigration Law, Litigation and Adr, Project Finance and Real Estate.

Established: 2001

Languages: Spanish, English, French

Association of partners: Costa Rican Bar Association, Costa Rican-American Chamber of Commerce, Costa Rican Representative for the ICC Fraudnet, Costa Rican Children's Hospital Association, Costa Rican Private Competitiveness Council.

Geographical areas: San José

Address: Corporate Center Plaza Roble, El Patio uilding, 3rd. floor, Office 1, Escazú, San José

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E-mail: rfacio@fhlegal.net / apignataro@fhlegal.net

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### **FEINZAIG TAITELBAUM, LEONARDO**

Education: Universidad Escuela Libre de Derecho, Fletcher School of Law Diplomacy (Harvard and Tufts).

Areas of Practice: Commercial Law, Public Contracting, Real Estate Law, Corporate Law.

Established: 1997

Languages: Spanish, English, Hebrew.

Associations: ABA.

Geographical areas: San Jose

Address: Guachipelín Escazú, Prisma Business Center, Office 204

Telephone: (506) 2288-5723; cell: (506) 6050-0880; fax: (506) 2228-7744.

E-mail: lenny@feinlegal.com

### **FOURNIER-BEECHE, ALFREDO - Alfredo Fournier & Asociados**

Education: Law School, Universidad de Costa Rica.

Areas of Practice: Real Estate, Corporate and Commercial Law; Notary Services, Civil Litigation,

Established: 1967

Languages: Spanish, English

Associations: Inter-American Bar Association, International Bar Association

Geographical areas: San Jose

Address: San Rafael de Escazú, Spazio Ejecutivo Building, Office #5, San Jose

Telephone: (506) 2288-0555; fax: (506) 2588-1287.

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### **GAMBOA RODRIGUEZ, MARIA ELENA**

Education: Universidad Autónoma de Centroamérica (U.A.C.A) Costa Rica.

Areas of Practice: Criminal, civil, property and Family law; Notary Services

Established: 1990

Languages: Spanish, English

Geographical areas: San Jose, Costa Rica

Address: Guadalupe Montelimar, 500 mts North-West, II Judicial Circuit of San José

Telephone: (506) 2241-1734; cell: (506) 8384-5895; fax: (506) 2241-3456.

E-mail: [megamboa@racsa.co.cr](mailto:megamboa@racsa.co.cr)

### **GARRO CANESSA, JAIME - Bufete LEXINCORP**

Education: Law School, Universidad de Costa Rica. Specialization: Universidad de Costa Rica

Areas of Practice: Criminal law  
Admitted at the Bar: 1983.  
Languages: Spanish, German and English.  
Associations: Chamber of Commerce Costa Rica, ACODES (Asociación Costarricense de Derecho de Seguros).  
Geographical Areas: San José;  
Address: Calle 37, Avenida 10, San José, Costa Rica.  
Telephone: (506) 2283-3070. Fax: (506) 2283-3234.  
Cel: (506) 8992-8473;  
E-mail: [jgarro@lexincorp.com](mailto:jgarro@lexincorp.com)  
Skype account: jaime.garro  
Website: <http://www.lexincorp.com/costarica-esp.php>

### **GARRO NAVARRO, ALLAN**

Education: Universidad Autonoma de Centroamérica (UACA), Universidad Estatal a Distancia (UNED), Costa Rican- North American Cultural Center, Continuous Education Program of the Costa Rican Bar Association.  
Areas of practice: Collections, Foreclosures, Litigation, Notary Services, Real Estate, Corporate Law and Litigation against Governmental Institutions.  
Established 1996.  
Languages: Spanish, English.  
Geographical Areas: Cartago, San José, Guanacaste, Puntarenas.  
Address: Cartago 2<sup>nd</sup> avenue, streets 11<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, 75 meters east from Ma Auxiliadora church; San José: La Sabana park, 125 meters East from Soda Tapia.  
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### **GATGENS GOMEZ ERICK – Bufete Gatgens & Asociados**

Education: Law School, Universidad de Costa Rica. Master's Degree, Universidad de Costa Rica. Doctor's Degree, Ludwig Maximilian University, Munich  
Areas of Practice: Criminal law  
Established: 1993  
Languages: Spanish, English, German, Basic Italian  
Associations: Asociación de Ciencias Penales de Costa Rica, Instituto Iberoamericano de Derecho procesal  
Geographical areas: San José, Cartago, Heredia, Alajuela, Puntarenas and Guanacaste  
Address: From Montelimar Gas Station, adjacent to the Court in Guadalupe, 300 meters north, 150 meters south, house number: 3062, San José, Costa Rica  
Telephone: (506) 2236-3242; 2236-3253. Fax: (506) 2236-3244  
E-mail: [gatgens@msn.com](mailto:gatgens@msn.com)  
Website: [penalistascr.com](http://penalistascr.com)

### **GLA GROUP**

Responsible Partners: JORGE FEDERICO BALDIOCEDA BALTODANO; JOSE PABLO FERNANDEZ NARVAEZ  
Contact person: Jorge Baldioceda Baltodano  
Partners' Education: Law School, Universidad de Costa Rica  
Areas of Practice: Civil and Corporate Law with emphasis in foreign investment transactions, Trust and Escrow Services, Litigation (Civil and Criminal), Real Estate Operations, corporate and real estate due diligence, intellectual property (Trademarks & Patents), Notary Services, Translations (English Spanish)  
Established: 2002  
Languages: Spanish, English  
Geographical areas: San Jose, Central Pacific and Guanacaste.  
Address: Mata Redonda, Oficentro Torre La Sabana, 7<sup>th</sup> floor, San Jose

Telephone: (506) 2296-5454; cell: (506) 8313- 3638; fax: (506) 2290-1860  
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Website: [www.gla.cr](http://www.gla.cr)

### **GLC ABOGADOS**

Responsible Partners: AUGUSTO ARCE MARIN; MANUEL PORRAS VARGAS

Contact Person: Monserrat Soto

Partners' Education: Law School, University of Arizona; Thunderbird School of Global Management; Tec de Monterrey; Law School, Universidad de Costa Rica.

Areas of Practice: Business, Immigration, Family, Labor, Incorporation; Notary Services

Languages: Spanish, English, Italian

Geographical Areas: San José, Limón; Guanacaste; Central Pacific

Address: Street 39, avenues 8 and 10, Los Yoses, San José

Telephone: (506) 2524-3176. Fax: (506) 2253-2252.

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### **GOMEZ & GALINDO ABOGADOS**

Responsible Partners: MARIO R. GOMEZ PACHECO; JOSE ANTONIO HIDALGO; ADRIANA RAMOS

Contact person: Mario Gómez

Partners' Education: Law School, Universidad de Costa Rica; INCAE

Areas of Practice: Corporate, Banking and Financial law; Notary Services

Established: 1991

Languages: Spanish, English, Italian, French

Geographical areas: Escazú, San José

Address: San José, San Rafael de Escazú, Avenida Escazú, Building AE 2, Fifth Floor

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Website: [www.gomezygalindo.com](http://www.gomezygalindo.com)

### **GONZALEZ URIBE**

Responsible Partners: JAVIER LEON LONGHI; LUIS JAVIER URIBE CHAVERRI

Partners' Education: Universidad de Costa Rica Law School.

Areas of Practice: Real Estate, Corporate Law, Banking Securities, Intellectual Property, Litigation and ADR, Environmental Law, Tax Services and Research on Environmental Impact.

Established: 2001

Languages: Spanish, English.

Geographical areas: San Jose.

Address: Oficentro Ejecutivo La Sabana, building 6, 5th floor.

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Website: <http://www.gonur.com/>

### **GONZALEZ ROESCH JORGE – Bufete Integra Abogados**

Education: Law School, Universidad de Costa Rica.

Areas of Practice: Real Estate, Investment, Trusts, Mergers and Acquisitions, Arbitration; Civil, Corporate, Banking Law; Notary

Established: 2004

Languages: Spanish, English

Geographical areas: San José, Manuel Antonio (Puntarenas), Santa Teresa (Puntarenas), Guanacaste, Puerto Viejo (Limón).

Address: San José, Escazú, San Rafael, El Cedral Business Center, Integra Abogados Building, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor.

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**GUARDIA & CUBERO, Bufete**

Responsible Partners: ARMANDO ALBERTO GUARDIA SASSO

Contact person: Lic. Armando Guardia

Partners' Education: Universidad de Costa Rica and New York University

Areas of Practice: Commercial, Tax, Civil, Real State Law, Foreign Investment, Free Zones, Notarial

Established: 1978

Languages: Spanish, English

Association of partners: Asociación Nacional de Fomento Económico, Costa Rica Country Club

Geographical areas: San Jose, Guanacaste

Address: 323<sup>rd</sup> Street , Avenue 8<sup>th</sup> and Central, #677, Barrio Francisco Peralta, San Jose

Telephone: (506) 2234-6060; cell: (506) 8885-9132; fax: (506) 2253-2931

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**HERRERA ULATE, YURI - Daremblum & Herrera Abogados S.A., Bufete**

Partners' Education: Universidad de Costa Rica, Latin American University of Science and Technology

Areas of Practice: Corporate Law; International Business Law; Commercial Law; Labor Law; Aeronautical Law; Patents, Trademarks; Civil Litigation; Commercial Litigation.

Established: 1984

Languages: Spanish, English

Association of partners: Law World; Americas Group

Geographical areas: North America, Central America, Brazil, Argentina, Caribbean and Asia Pacific.

Address: Atrium Corporate Business Center, Escazú, San Jose Costa Rica.

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Website: [www.daremblum.com](http://www.daremblum.com)

**HULBERT, ANDREA – Hulbert Volio CCLA, Commercial – Civil Litigation & Arbitration**

Education: Universidad de Costa Rica; Universidad para la Cooperación Internacional y Centro Latinoamericano de Arbitraje Empresarial (Costa Rica), Universidad Castilla La Mancha (Toledo, Spain).

Areas of Practice: Litigation and arbitration.

Areas of practice: Civil law; Corporate, commercial and shareholder disputes; Interpretation and enforcement of contracts; Consumer protection; Unfair competition; Professional liability; Construction law; Contractual and extra-contractual civil liability; Collection proceedings; Bankruptcy and insolvency; Wealth Preservation and Estates & Trusts; Court and notarial probate proceedings; Dispute prevention services; Dispute resolution; Domestic and international arbitration; Structuring of real estate developments and complex businesses; Notary Services.

Established: 1994.

Languages: English, Spanish.

Associations: New York State Bar Association; Costa Rican Chamber of Commerce; ICC Costa Rica - International Chamber of Commerce; Spanish Arbitration Club (CEA).

Geographical areas: San José, Alajuela, Heredia, Cartago, Puntarenas, Guanacaste y Limón.

Address: Plaza Roble Corporate Center, Las Terrazas A Building, 5<sup>th</sup>. floor, Escazú, San José, Costa Rica.

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Skype account: Skype username: andrea Hulbert; Skype number: 1-786-2204669

Website: [www.hulbertvolio.com](http://www.hulbertvolio.com)

**JENKINS, FEDERICO, Esq. (Costa Rica, New York)**

Education: Law School, Universidad de Costa Rica; LLM, University of Miami

Areas of Practice: Legal Strategy, International Business Transactions, Tax, Corporate, Trade-WTO, Intellectual Property.

Established: 1985

Languages: Spanish, English

Associations: New York State Bar Association

Geographical areas: Central America and the Caribbean, emphasis in Costa Rica and Panama.

Address: 200 mts North, 50 mts East, Vargas Matamoros, Uruca, San Jose.

Telephone: (718) 360-2396, cell (506) 8851-1002.

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## **JIMENEZ LAW**

Responsible Partners: SERGIO JIMÉNEZ ODIO – GISELLE MARIE PACHECHO SABORÍO

Partners' Education: Universidad Autónoma de Centroamérica (UACA)

Areas of Practice: Foreign Investment; Corporate Law; Distribution Law; Contracts; Administrative Contracting Law; Real Estate; Copyright; Intellectual Property; Securities; International Business Transactions; Acquisitions; Litigation; Labor Law; Antitrust; Competition Law and Immigration Law

Established: 2000

Languages: Spanish, English

Association of partners: Inter-American Bar Association (IABA), American Bar Association (ABA), International Bar Association (IBA), Association of Trial Lawyers of America (ATLA), International Trademark Association (INTA), Association of Intellectual Property in Inter America (ASIFI).

Geographical areas: All Costa Rica

Address: Main Branch: Avenida Escazú, Building 202, Suite 305, Third Floor, Escazú, San Jose / East Branch: 300 meters east from Momentum Pinares, Curridabat, San José.

Telephone: (506) 2288-3948 / (506) 2288-3992; cell: (506) 8384-9147 / (506) 8380-5307; fax: (506) 4000-1323

E-mail: [sjimenez@jimenezlawcr.com](mailto:sjimenez@jimenezlawcr.com); [gpacheco@jimenezlawcr.com](mailto:gpacheco@jimenezlawcr.com)

Website: [www.jimenezlawcr.com](http://www.jimenezlawcr.com)

## **LANG & ASOCIADOS**

Responsible Partners: HENRY LANDO – ROGELIO NAVAS

Contact person: Henry Lang

Partners' Education: Harvard Law School; Universidad de Costa Rica Law School

Areas of Practice: Corporate, Real Estate, Contracts, Civil, Intellectual Property, Commercial, Free Trade Zones, Foreign Investment, Natural Resources, Software, Administrative, Labor.

Established: 1991

Languages: English, French, Spanish and Italian.

Geographical areas: San José and all other areas of Costa Rica.

Address: Forum I Business Park, Building G, Third Floor, Pozos de Santa Ana, San José

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 69-6155, Forum Santa Ana, San José, Costa Rica.

Telephone: (506) 2204-7871. Fax: (506) 2204-7872.

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## **LARIOS A., MAYLING. – Bufete Larios & Alvarado**

Education: Law School, Universidad de Costa Rica

AREAS OF PRACTICE: Criminal Law; Labor Law; Agrarian Law; Franchises & Brands, Civil Law, Family Law; International Commerce; Corporate Law; Tax Law; Trusts, Real Estate; Commercial and Investment Banking; concession of Public works and Services with our Government; Business Opportunities; Corporate Counseling; Energy and Telecommunications Law; High-Tech Industries; Litigations; Alternate resolution of conflicts; Arbitration; Mergers and Acquisitions; Civil Aeronautic Law; NOTARY SERVICES. All the areas mentioned with practice since 1987.

Languages: Spanish, English, Italian, Mandarin and Korean Geographical areas: Costa Rica (all provinces)

Address: 500 meters north and 100 meters East from U.S. Embassy-Rohrmoser Boulevard

Telephone: (506)2232-7965; (506)2220-4069; (506)2290-7417; fax (506)2220-4262

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Website: [costarica-attorney.com](http://costarica-attorney.com)

**LORIA RODOLFO - R. Loria Abogados**

Education: University of Costa Rica, School of Law 1974-1982, graduated with honors as Attorney at Law and Notary Public.

Universidad Escuela Libre de Derecho, Certified Mediator 2002

Universidad para la Cooperación Internacional UCI. Studies in Environmental Legislation 2011.

Universidad Fundepos, Programa Especialista Tributario, Tax Specialist Program, August 2014.

Areas of Practice: Commercial Law, Real Estate Law, Maritime Zone Law, Civil Litigation, Probate Law, A.D.R.

Established: 1984

Languages: Spanish and English.

Geographical Areas: San Jose, Guanacaste, Quepos.

Address: 10th Avenue, 35 Street, Los Yoses, San Jose, Costa Rica.

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Website: [www.loria.info](http://www.loria.info)

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**MATA MUÑOZ OSCAR – Jimenez Law**

Education: Escuela Libre de Derecho U.A.C.A.

Areas of Practice: Tax Law; Notarial

Established: 1994

Languages: Spanish, English.

Associations: Colegio de Abogados and Dirección Nacional de Notariado.

Geographical areas: San José, Cartago and the rest of the country if necessary.

Address: Office in Escazú: 202 Avenida Escazú, Suite 305, third Floor;

Office in Tres Ríos: 300 mts. east Momentum Pinares. San José, Costa Rica.-

Telephone: Escazú: (506) 2288-3992; Tres Ríos: (506) 2279-7803.--

Fax: (506) 2518-1874; Cell: (506) 8879-0867;

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Skype account: omatamm

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**MATAMOROS BOLAÑOS, ALEJANDRO – Lara, López, Matamoros, Rodriguez & Tinoco**

Education: Law School, Universidad de Costa Rica, Georgetown University, LL.M.; New York University, LL.M.

Areas of Practice: Real Estate, Corporate and Commercial law; Notary Services

Established: 1966

Languages: Spanish, English

Geographical areas: Guanacaste, San Jose

Address: Sabana Norte, from Rostipollos, 100 North, 100 East, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Nueva Building

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Website: [www.llm.co.cr](http://www.llm.co.cr)

**MONTERO LOPEZ, FERNANDO**

Education: International University of the Americas.

Specializations covered: Commercial, Civil and Real Estate, Arbitration & Litigation

Law firm established in: 1974

Languages: Spanish, English, Basic French.

Geographical areas: San José, Jaco, South Pacific.

Address: Streets 9 & 11, Avenue 8, #963, San José, Costa Rica.

Telephone: (506) 2223-7711. Fax: (506) 2221-3431. Cel: (506) 8925-2201.

E-mail: [fmonterocmflaw@gmail.com](mailto:fmonterocmflaw@gmail.com); [fmontero@cmfclaw.com](mailto:fmontero@cmfclaw.com)

Website: [www.cmfclaw.com](http://www.cmfclaw.com)

**MORERA Y MORERA S.R.L., Bufete**

Responsible Partners: NESTOR MORERA – CARMEN CALVO.

Partners' Education: Law School, Universidad de Costa Rica; Università degli Studi di Torino, Italy; Universidad de Alicante, Spain.

Areas of Practice: Litigation (Criminal, Civil, Agricultural and Labor law); Notary Services; Intellectual Property Law litigation and registration.

Established: 1978.

Languages: Spanish and English.

Association of partners: Costa Rica Chamber of Commerce, International Trademark Association (INTA), Inter American Intellectual Property Law Association (ASIPI), World Union of Agrarian College Students (UMAU).

Geographical areas: Central, North and Caribbean zones.

Address: Street 9, Avenue 7-9, Heredia.

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### **NASSAR ABOGADOS S.A.**

Responsible Partners: TOMÁS F. NASSAR – ALINA NASSAR

Contact person: Tomás F. Nassar; Alina Nassar

Partners' Education: Law School, Universidad de Costa Rica.

Areas of Practice: Corporate, M&A, Commercial, Civil Litigation; Aviation; Maritime, Finance and Venture Capital; Bank; Contracts; Competition and Consumer Protection; Intellectual Property; Administrative; Constitutional; Public Contracts; Tax; Customs; Labor; Immigration; Real Estate; Telecommunications.

Law firm established in: 1982

Languages: English, French, Hebrew, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish

Geographical areas: San José and Central America

Address: Barrio Tournón, Oficentro Torres del Campo. Torre I, second floor, San José, Costa Rica.

Telephone: (506) 2257-2929. Fax: (506) 2248-2021.

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Website: [www.nassarabogados.com](http://www.nassarabogados.com)

### **NIEHAUS ABOGADOS**

Responsible Partners: WALTER NIEHAUS BONILLA

Partners' Education: Duke University and Universidad Autónoma de Centroamérica y de San José.

Areas of Practice: Foreign Direct Investment, Commercial, Contracts, Corporate, Tourism, Insurance, Criminal, Real Estate, Developments, Immigration, Intellectual Property; Notary Services

Established: 1974

Languages: Spanish, English, German, French

Association of partners: AMCHAM, International Bar Association, Crecex, Camara de Comercio de Costa Rica, joint ventures with law firms in Panamá, Nicaragua, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Mexico, USA, Canada, Germany, France, Spain

Geographical areas: San Jose, Jaco, Manuel Antonio, Guanacaste, Arenal.

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Skype Account: wniehaus0566

Website: [www.ninclaw.com](http://www.ninclaw.com)

### **PACHECO COTO**

Responsible Partners: HUMBERTO PACHECO ALPÍZAR, HERNÁN PACHECO ORFILA.

Contact person: Humberto A. Pacheco Ortíz, Managing Partner.

Partners' Education: Humberto Pacheco Alpízar: Harvard Law School; University of Miami; Notre Dame University; Universidad de Costa Rica. Hernán Pacheco Orfila: Harvard Law School; University of Hull, England; Universidad Autónoma de Centroamérica.

Areas of Practice: International Asset Planning, Business and Corporate law/ M&As, Real Estate and Hospitality Law, Tax Law (Costa Rica), Intellectual Property, Administrative law/Government Procurement; Telecommunications, Banking and Finance, Litigation and Arbitration; Environmental Law; Energy and Project Financing.

Established: 1939

Languages: English, French, Hebrew, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish

Association of partners: Humberto Pacheco Alpizar: International Bar Association; International Fiscal Association; New York State Bar Association; Costa Rican Investment Promotion Agency (CINDE); Founding Member and past President, Costa Rican-American Chamber of Commerce.

Hernán Pacheco Orfila: International Bar Association, New York State Bar Association (Chairman Costa Rican Chapter (2005-); past President, Costa Rican-American Chamber of Commerce; Union of Chambers of Costa Rica (UCCAEP); Vice-president, Board of Governors of the Executive Committee, Association of American Chambers of Commerce in Latin America (AACCLA (2011-)).

Geographical areas: San José, Costa Rica; Auckland, New Zealand; Zurich, Switzerland.

Address: PACHECO COTO Building, Forum 2, Lindora, Santa Ana, 10903 San José, Costa Rica.

Telephone: (506) 2505-0900; cell: (506) 8830-4307; fax: (506) 2505-0907

E-mail: [humberto.a.pacheco@pachecocoto.com](mailto:humberto.a.pacheco@pachecocoto.com)

Website: [www.pachecocoto.com](http://www.pachecocoto.com)

### **PREINFALK LAVAGNI, NICOLE**

Education: Law School, Universidad de Costa Rica.

Areas of Practice: Commercial, Corporative and Immigration law; Notary Services, Real State Services.

Established: 2000

Languages: Spanish, English, German

Geographical areas: San José, Escazú, Santa Ana, Heredia, Belén.

Address: Heredia, Belén, Bosques de Doña Rosa

Telephone: (506) 2239-1338; cell: (506) 6058-5870; fax: (506) 2239-1681.

E-mail: [npreinfalk@gmail.com](mailto:npreinfalk@gmail.com)

Skype account: npreinfalk

### **REDONDO VEGA, IVONNE - Bufete Chaves Corrales & Asociados**

Education: Law School, Escuela Libre de Derecho, U.A.C.A.

Areas of Practice: Commercial & Civil Law; Notary Services

Languages: Spanish, English

Geographical areas: San José

Address: Ave. 2 y 4, Street 15, Building 260, San José

Telephone: (506) 2256-4260; fax: (506) 2255-1010.

E-mail: [iredondo@bufetechaves.com](mailto:iredondo@bufetechaves.com)

### **SAENZ ROESCH ALBERTO – Bufete Integra Abogados**

Education: Law School, Universidad Autónoma de Centro America

Areas of Practice: Investment, Real Estate, Banking, Maritime Zone, Mergers and Acquisitions; Labor, Civil, Corporate, and Environmental Law; Notary Services

Established: 2004

Languages: Spanish, English

Geographical areas: San José, Manuel Antonio (Puntarenas), Santa Teresa (Puntarenas), Guanacaste, Puerto Viejo (Limón).

Address: San José, Escazú, San Rafael, El Cedral Business Center, Integra Abogados Building, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor.

Telephone: (506) 4031 0630

E-mail: [asaenz@integraregalecr.com](mailto:asaenz@integraregalecr.com)

Website: [www.integraregalecr.com](http://www.integraregalecr.com)

### **SALAZAR UREÑA, BERNAN LUIS - BSU Legal**

Education: Law School, Universidad de Costa Rica.

Areas of Practice: Criminal, Business and Taxes Law

Established: 1996

Languages: Spanish, English

Geographical areas: San Jose, Heredia, Alajuela, Cartago, Puntarenas, Guanacaste, Limon.-

Address: San Jose, Santa Ana, Pozos, in front of Catholic Church (300 meters east and 25 north from El Lagar)

Telephone: (506) 2282-2770; cell: (506) 8820-4076; fax: (506) 2282-2083.

E-mail: [bsulaw@gmail.com](mailto:bsulaw@gmail.com) , [bsulegal@gmail.com](mailto:bsulegal@gmail.com)

### **S.E.E.D. (Society. Ecology. Entrepreneurship. Development.)**

Responsible Partners: JOSE MIGUEL ALFARO RODRÍGUEZ – JOSÉ MIGUEL ALFARO GÓMEZ

Partners' Education: Law School, Universidad de Costa Rica

Areas of Practice: S.E.E.D. is a boutique law firm specializing in legal, political and strategic counsel for ecologically aware and socially oriented businesses, either for-profit or non-profit: Business, Corporate, Commercial, Civil, Labor, Immigration, Agency & Distribution Agreements, Intellectual Property, Foreign Investment, Mergers & Acquisitions, Real Estate, Bankruptcy

Established: 2008

Languages: Spanish, English and French

Association of partners: ACOPROT

Geographical Areas: San José

Address: San José, 11<sup>th</sup> Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, number 255

Telephone: (506) 2221-3503; mobile: (506) 8845-2935; fax: (506) 2221-6516

E-mail: [jose@seedcr.com](mailto:jose@seedcr.com)

Skype: jmiguelalfaro

Website: [www.seedcr.com](http://www.seedcr.com)

### **SFERA LEGAL**

Responsible Partners: RAFAEL E. CAÑAS – ERIC SCHARF – ROBERT VAN DER PUTTEN

Partners' Education: RAFAEL E. CAÑAS: Stanford University (LL.M., 2008); Yale University (Management Program for Lawyers, 2005); Universidad de Costa Rica (Juris Doctor, Academic Honors, 1994)..

ERIC SCHARF: Columbia University Law School, New York (LL.M., 1999); Columbia Law School Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar (1999); Columbia Law School Rubin Fellow (1998-1999); Universidad de Costa Rica (Juris Doctor, Academic Honors, 1994); The College of Insurance (Insurance Courses, 1999); Practicing Law Institute (Insurance Courses, 1999-2000); Recipient: Fulbright Scholar (1998-1999) and Organization of American States Scholar (1998-1999).

ROBERT VAN DER PUTTEN: Universidad Internacional de las Américas (Juris Doctor, Academic Honors, 1995); University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (Business Administration, 1990-1992).

Areas of Practice: Complex Real Estate Transactions and Development; Corporate, Mergers & Acquisitions; Tax and Estate Planning; Private Equity, Insurance Law, Project Finance, International Business Transactions.

Established: 2012

Languages: Spanish, English, Italian, French, Portuguese and Hebrew.

Association of partners: Costa Rican Bar Association, International Trademark Association. Costa Rican International Law Association; International Commission of Jurists, Costa Rica Chapter; International Who's Who of Professionals; Entrepreneurs' Organization

Geographical areas: Limon, San Jose, Puntarenas, Guanacaste.

Address: Corporate Center Plaza Roble, El Pórtico Building, Third Floor.

Telephone: (506) 2201-0000

Fax: (506) 2201-0001

E-mail: [rec@sferalegal.com](mailto:rec@sferalegal.com) [est@sferalegal.com](mailto:est@sferalegal.com) [rudp@sferalegal.com](mailto:rudp@sferalegal.com)

Website: [www.sferalegal.com](http://www.sferalegal.com)

### **SOLEY, SABORÍO & ASOCIADOS, BUFETE**

Responsible Partners: ELÍAS SOLEY GUTIÉRREZ – EMILIA SABORÍO POZUELO

Contact Person: Elías Soley-Gutiérrez

Education: Law degree from the Universidad Autónoma de Centroamérica – UACA (1987)

Areas of Practice: General legal practice with emphasis on corporate law, commercial law, regulatory & telecommunications law, free zones, customs, intellectual property (Biomedical research, Pharmaceuticals and Sanitary registries), government contracting and concessions, international trade and investment, real estate and project finance.

Languages: English, Spanish

Geographical Areas: Entire country; Central America

Address: North Sabana, Torre La Sabana Building, 7th floor, San José

Telephone: (506) 2290-7220; fax: (506) 2290-7221; cell: (506) 7010-2121

E-mail: esoley@soley-saborio.com, esaborio@soley-saborio.com

Website: [www.soley-saborio.com](http://www.soley-saborio.com)

### **SOLORZANO GUILLEN GISELLE - HFC Abogados**

Education: Universidad de Costa Rica.

Areas of Practice: Family, Commercial and Civil law; Notary Services

Established: 1992

Languages: Spanish, English, Basic French

Geographical areas: All around the country

Address: Street 31, Avenue 7 y 9, Home #739, San José, Costa Rica.

Telephone: (506)2234-5301 (506) 2234-5304, cell (506) 8827-0247 fax: (506) 2234-5352

E-mail: [gisellesg@gmail.com](mailto:gisellesg@gmail.com)

Skype account: g.sol.g

Website: <http://golegalcr.weebly.com>

### **TBO Lawyers, BUFETE**

Responsible Partners: ALEX THOMPSON – ADRIAN OBANDO

Education: Alex Thompson: University of Costa Rica. Adrian Obando: University of Costa Rica / Duke University,

Areas of Practice: Foreign Investment; Estate Planning; Tourism, Real Estate, Commercial, Corporate, and Civil Law; Notary Services

Languages: English, Spanish

Geographical Areas: San José, Manuel Antonio

Address: Plaza Murano, 5th floor, office #58th, Santa Ana, San José, Costa Rica.

Telephone: (506) 2582-1696 /2582-1763 / 2582- 1752; Fax 506): 2582-2278

E-mail: [info@tbolawyers.com](mailto:info@tbolawyers.com)

Website: <http://www.tbolawyers.com>

### **ZURCHER , ODIO & RAVEN S.A.**

Responsible Partners: HARRY ZURCHER BLEN – EDGAR ZURCHER GURDIÁN

Contact Person: Harry Zurcher Blen

Education: Universidad de Costa Rica, Harvard University

Areas of Practice: Corporate & Commercial; Corporate Finance; Mergers & Acquisitions; Real Estate; Banking & Finance; Trusts & Estates; Employer-Labor Relations; Foreign Investment & International Commerce; Tourism Intellectual Property; Trademarks & Patents; Immigration; Environmental Regulation & Public Health; Government Procurement; Energy & Telecommunications, Litigation

Languages: Spanish, English, Italian

Geographical Areas: Entire country; Costa Rica

Address: Plaza Roble, Los Balcones Building, 4th floor

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Website: [www.zurcherodioraven.com](http://www.zurcherodioraven.com)

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## **RETAINING AN ATTORNEY IN COSTA RICA**

The following guidelines may assist you in protecting your interests when retaining the services of a Costa Rican attorney, with reference to a private party dispute, a domestic relations dispute, or a small commercial transaction.

### **I. Selecting an Attorney**

The Consular Section can provide you a compiled list of local attorneys. It would be wise for you to contact several attorneys, briefly describing the nature of the services you desire, before choosing one. The list of attorneys contains some guidance as to the specialties of each of the attorneys, which may allow you to narrow your choices. The Costa Rican Bar Association (Colegio de Abogados) publishes a schedule of Minimum Fees, which attorneys in Costa Rica have to charge by law. Be advised, however, that depending on the complexities of the case, the expertise of the attorney and other factors, the fees can be substantially higher than the ones contained in the official schedule.

In any case, before you decide which attorney to retain, determine whether the attorney is fluent in English and ask for a written estimate of his/her fees, including a detailed description of the work to be performed. It is suggested not to pay until you are satisfied that your attorney understands your case, you agree with the case strategy, the attorney is willing to handle it, and that the conditions are clearly agreed to for both sides, including how often and how communication will take place with your attorney. Always ask for a receipt signed by your attorney for any payment you make, and save the corresponding proof of any deposits or a fund wired into the attorney's or law firm's account. It is important to point out that if in the middle of the process you want to change attorneys, he/she will have to present to the court reviewing the case a statement indicating that the correspondent fees have been cancelled before another legal representative can be appointed to the same case.

### **II. Notaries Public**

In Costa Rica most attorneys are notaries, and most importantly, to be a notary you ought to be an attorney. As a matter of fact, in many instances attorneys' and notaries' public functions intertwine. This means that your attorney can draft instruments, wills and conveyances, and later acknowledge the authenticity of those documents. He/she can also witness your identity and legal capacity to sign these documents.

### **III. Assistance of the Consular Section of the U.S. Embassy in San Jose**

Should your association with a Costa Rican attorney prove unsatisfactory, a U.S. Consular Office may, if requested, contact the attorney to facilitate communication. In addition, repetitive and grounded complaints against an attorney who appears on the Consular Section's List of Attorneys may result in the removal of the

name from the list. If you have a complaint against an attorney on the list, please notify the Consular Section immediately by writing to [ACSSanJose@state.gov](mailto:ACSSanJose@state.gov).

The Consular Section can also advise you how to file a complaint with the local bar association, including complaints about fees. You may find information about filing a complaint at the following Bar Association link: <http://www.abogados.or.cr/fiscaliainenglish.pdf>

#### IV. **Coordination with Counsel in the U.S.**

American attorneys cannot represent your interests in Costa Rica except with the assistance of local counsel. American attorneys experienced in international law may, however, be helpful in explaining the complex international issues involved in your case. Some American attorneys may have associates, partners or correspondents in Costa Rica to whom they can refer you to.

#### V. **Free Legal Aid in Costa Rica**

There are some free legal aid associations in Costa Rica. **Many entities and sites were described at the beginning of the list.** Some Costa Rican attorneys do pro-bono work. Also, the Universidad de Costa Rica's law school (Facultad de Derecho) sponsors a program called Consultorios Jurídicos. Consultorios Jurídicos are legal-aid offices staffed by law students and supervised by a resident attorney. These offices handle small labor disputes, certain domestic relations cases, and a few other civil cases. These offices do not handle commercial transactions, immigration, or criminal matters. Remember that if you decide to take your case to a Consultorio Jurídico, a law student, not an attorney, will handle your case and he/she may not speak English. For more information about Consultorios Jurídicos you may contact the Universidad de Costa Rica's Law School at the numbers or site listed above.

The Costa Rican Judiciary provides free defense counsel for criminal matters and very limited family matters. It is important to understand that these public defenders carry heavy caseloads, and they might not be bilingual. Defendants have the right to a translator by law.

#### VI. **How to Deal with Your Costa Rican private attorney**

- a. Find out the attorney's qualifications and experience.
- b. Find out how the attorney plans to represent you. Ask specific questions and explain that you expect the attorney to explain legal matters in a language that you can understand.
- c. Find out what fees the attorney charges and in what manner he/she expects to be paid. Some attorneys expect to be paid in advance, others demand a deposit before taking action, and still others prefer to be paid in installments tied to the actions taken. It is uncommon for attorneys to take cases on a percentage basis, but it could be possible depending on the case or circumstances.
- d. Ask that your attorney keep you informed of the progress of your case, preferably in writing, according to a pre-established schedule. A clear agreement on communication channels and frequency of communication is very important to keep a healthy relationship with your attorney. Be aware that court cases in Costa Rica can

take months, even years to be resolved. Therefore, you may wish the attorney to send you periodic reports, even though no real developments have ensued, simply to satisfy your wish to track the progress of the case.

- e. Have your attorney analyze your case, giving you the positive and negative aspects, and both possible and probable outcomes, and have him/her describe the possible processes or strategies he/she would take to solve your problem.
- f. Do not expect your attorney to give a simple answer to a complex legal problem. Be sure that you understand the technical language in any contract or other legal document prepared by your attorney before you sign it. If your attorney is acting as a Notary Public, make sure that he/she states in whatever public instrument he/she drafts for you that he/she has translated the instrument into English because of your inability to understand Spanish. This statement may safeguard your interests in case your attorney commits an error in translation. When signing a document in a foreign language, it is suggested that someone you trust who is fluent in the other language should accompany you so he/she can review the document that you're signing and what your attorney is saying the document indicates/states.
- g. Keep your attorney fully informed of any new developments in the case.
- h. If you need to provide complex or technical documents to your attorney, you may wish to consider having the documents translated into the native language. Remember, an elementary knowledge of English may not be enough to enable the attorney to understand the documents you provide.
- i. Be honest with your attorney. Tell the attorney every relevant fact in order to get the best representation for your interests.
- j. Find out how much time the attorney estimates the case may take to complete.
- k. Be aware that should you decide to change attorneys in the middle of a case, you must obtain a statement from your original attorney that no fees are owed, and the date on which he/she separated from the case.
- l. Request copies of all letters and documents prepared on your behalf. Should you decide to change attorneys, ask for your file before you make final payment of fees.

#### VII. **Complaints against a Costa Rican Attorney:**

If the services of your Costa Rican attorney prove unsatisfactory, in addition to notifying the Consular Section of the U.S. Embassy in San Jose, you may address your complaints to the local bar association:

***Colegio de Abogados y Abogadas de Costa Rica*** (Costa Rican Bar Association)

Address: From the Social Guarantee roundabout (Rotonda de Garnatías Sociales), 200 meters West, 100 meters North.

Webpage: <http://www.abogados.or.cr>

There is a specific site to file a complaint against an attorney: <http://www.abogados.or.cr/fiscaliaenglish.pdf>

The Costa Rican Bar Association has a link for the Professional Ethics Code that could be consulted at the following site (Code is in Spanish):

[http://www.abogados.or.cr/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=59&Itemid=69](http://www.abogados.or.cr/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=59&Itemid=69)

If the services provided by the attorney were based on notarial services, you must file the complaint at the Dirección General de Notariado (Notary National Directorate) <http://consulta.dnn.go.cr/consultapublica/>  
Ph: (506) 2528-5756

Address: West side of Mall San Pedro, Oficentro Sigma Business Center, Building A, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor.

Webpage: <http://consulta.dnn.go.cr>

Attorneys do not have to be notaries to practice law in Costa Rica, but as indicated before, all notaries must be attorneys. All attorneys must belong to the Colegio de Abogados, Costa Rica's bar association, and notaries must be registered with the Dirección Nacional de Notariado.

Documents to be used in Costa Rica from a foreign country must have legal authentications. Many must have an Apostille stamp (when countries have a relationship under the Hague Apostille Convention.) For more information consult: [http://www.rree.go.cr/index.php?sec=servicios\\_al\\_publico&cat=servicios\\_de\\_autenticación](http://www.rree.go.cr/index.php?sec=servicios_al_publico&cat=servicios_de_autenticación)

Documents to be used in formal processes in Costa Rica need to have a translation into Spanish by an official translator authorized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs <http://www.rree.go.cr>

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