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Contacts

Miami Office
1111 Brickell Avenue, Suite 2500
Miami, FL 33131

Fernando C. Alonso
(305) 810-2570
falonso@hunton.com

Barbara Alonso
(305) 810-2514
balonso@hunton.com

John F. Haley
(305) 810-2595
jhaley@hunton.com

Carlos E. Loumiet
(305) 810-2575
cloumiet@hunton.com

Fernando Margarit
(305) 810-2583
fmargarit@hunton.com

New York Office
200 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10166-0091

Susan S. Failla
(212) 309-1238
sfailla@hunton.com

Keila Ravelo
(212) 309-1049
kravelo@hunton.com

Richmond
Riverfront Plaza, East Tower
951 East Byrd Street
Richmond, VA 23219-4074

Robert Acosta-Lewis
(804) 788-8390
racosta-lewis@hunton.com

London
30 St Mary Axe
London EC3A 8EP
United Kingdom

Raúl Grable
+44 (0)20 7220 5755
rgrable@hunton.com

Washington
1900 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006-1109

Thomas B. Trimble
(202) 955-1687
ttrimble@hunton.com

Hunton & Williams LLP Latin America Practice Recognized by Chambers and Partners

Hunton & Williams LLP is proud to announce that the firm was selected by Chambers and Partners as the winner of this year's Award for Excellence for Latin American Investment. Hunton & Williams' Latin America practice group has been recognized as the leading practice in the United States.

Hunton & Williams' Latin America practice group benefits from the great diversity and experience of its attorneys and professionals. Our lawyers have handled matters in every Latin American and major Caribbean country, creating a unique niche by serving as a bridge for inbound and outbound investments in the region. Most of the Latin America practice group's attorneys and other professionals are fluent in Spanish or Portuguese, allowing them to communicate in the relevant local languages and to understand the intricacies of the local business culture and underlying legal framework. The breadth of proficiency and experience of our Latin America practice group is evidenced by the fact that several of the team's partners have been recognized in Chambers USA's 2009 directory as 'Leaders in their Field.' The qualities on which leading lawyers are assessed include legal ability, professional conduct, client service, diligence, commercial awareness, and commitment to the client.

The firm's Latin America practice group is a multi-disciplinary group comprised of more than 50 lawyers who are based throughout the firm's diverse geographic locations. The Latin America practice group's team-centric (as opposed to office-centric) structure means that the firm's lawyers can quickly and efficiently draw resources from a large pool of talent in several offices, including London, New York, Washington, D.C. and Miami (which serves as the center of the firm's Latin America practice) covering virtually every discipline of civil law, including M&A, banking and finance, capital markets, private equity, project finance, and litigation and ADR. Some recent representative matters from our Latin America practice are highlighted below:

Mergers and Acquisitions

The firm represents public and private companies in all aspects of negotiated acquisitions in a broad range of industries, with particular emphasis on energy, technology, financial services and consumer products. Recent representations include Banco Santander, S.A., in its acquisition from Bank of America of approximately \$9 billion in private banking and premiere banking assets of residents of Latin America; Grupo Banistmo S.A., in its \$1.77 billion sale to HSBC; MercadoLibre,

Inc., in its 100% of stock acquisition of DeRemate, in the aggregate amount of \$52 million; and Banco de Sabadell, S.A., in its \$2 billion acquisition of the Miami-based, Latin America-oriented private banking division of BBVA. Hunton & Williams represented Smithfield Foods, Inc. in its \$815 million sale to JBS S.A., in Brazil; and Philip Morris International, Inc., in its \$293.5 million acquisition of Compañía Colombiana de Tabaco S.A. and its \$930 million sale of Kibon (Brazil) to Unilever.

Banking and Finance

The firm represents domestic and international lenders — including commercial banks and bank holding companies, underwriters, merchant banks, multi-lateral organizations, thrifts, insurance companies, institutional investors, finance subsidiaries of major companies and private equity groups, and corporate borrowers — in a wide range of credit transactions, including secured and unsecured term and revolving loans, bridge financing, syndicated transactions, trade financings and various other kinds of financing structures. Recently, Hunton & Williams represented Instituto Costarricense de Electricidad (ICE) in negotiating a \$381 million financing from the IDB; BBVA in its €19.1 billion loan to Telmex; and Citibank N.A. in various financing transactions in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Capital Markets

The firm regularly advises both issuers and underwriters in different types of transactions, including initial and secondary public equity offerings, private placements of debt and equity securities. Hunton & Williams represented MercadoLibre, Inc. in its \$300 million initial public offering; Viação Itapemirim S.A. in various international capital market offerings, including its most recent exchange offer for \$45 million of debt securities; and Autopistas del Nordeste (Cayman) Limited in its \$162 million Eurobond offering to fund the building and operation of a toll road in the Dominican Republic.

Project Finance

The firm represents sponsors, equity investors and lenders in every aspect of the development, construction and financing of power generation, transportation, telecommunications, water, natural resources and construction infrastructure projects throughout the world. Some of the firm's recent representations include: representing Boulevard Turístico del Atlántico, C. por A. in a \$95 million loan to fund the design, construction, operation and maintenance of an extension of the Autopistas del Nordeste toll road in the Dominican Republic; representing an international consortium in financing

the \$1.78 billion expansion of Interstate 595 in Florida — one of the largest Public/Private Partnership deals to reach financial closing in the United States; and representing international sponsors in connection with the procurement and financing of the I-95 Managed Lanes Project — one of the first projects procured as a design build finance project under the public private partnership laws in Florida.

Litigation and ADR

The firm offers litigation services throughout the United States and Latin America. We also offer a variety of alternatives to avoid formal, public, costly and often protracted litigation. Hunton & Williams' ADR practice group has valuable experience with tools such as mediation, arbitration, mini trials and neutral case evaluation, among others. The firm currently represents Banco Santander, S.A. in various class actions that have been filed against the Bank that assert claims arising from the ponzi scheme perpetrated by Bernard Madoff. The firm has conducted several significant internal investigations for multinational companies involving issues arising from their operations in Latin America.

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