

# Leonel Baquerizo

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## PROFILE

### **BILINGUAL ATTORNEY / LAW SCHOOL PROFESSOR**

Civil law country attorney licensed to practice in Ecuador - Latin America and now eligible for the State Bar of New York and California having completed a Master of Laws (LL.M.) degree at the University of Connecticut. Fluent in Spanish and English, spoken and written, and capable to communicate clearly and concisely in both languages with people of diverse backgrounds and levels of authority, including high government officials. High level of integrity and professionalism with drive for results and determination for success. Broad legal background with more than 15 years of experience in international business transactions with Latin America, Asia and Europe. Highly talented litigation attorney in diverse areas of the law such as breach of contracts, debt collection, torts, and government liability. Proven ability to provide a full range of commercial, compliance and corporate legal services. Extraordinary teaching skills at top ranked Law Schools in South America.

### **EXPERTISE**

International Business & Trade / International Sales of Goods & Services / Litigation / Sales & Procurements Contracts / Outsourcing & Distribution Agreements / Joint Ventures / Commercial Transactions / Debt Collection / Latin America & U.S. Legal System / Latin America Labor Law / Government Licenses / Management of external legal support / Business Developer & Contract Negotiator / Business & Government Relationships / Teaching Law.

### **KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN LEGAL PRACTICE**

- ✓ Collected debts in a total amount of \$4,000,000 without going to trial; achieving success in cases where previous lawyers had failed.
- ✓ Obtained compensation for damages in the amount of \$1,000,000 in a trial finally decided by the Ecuadorian Supreme Court for the illegal attachment of a debtor's property by a government financial institution.
- ✓ Counseled international investor in a gold mining project in Ecuador. All Government licenses required were granted.
- ✓ Obtained a grade of 4.92/5 (first semester) and 4.99/5 (second semester) in professor evaluations performed at UESS University Law School, 2005 (no subsequent evaluations were performed).

## EXPERIENCE

### **BAQUERIZO LUQUE & ASSOCIATES, Guayaquil, Ecuador**

*Partner, 1996-2008*

Practiced commercial and torts litigation, drafted contracts and joint venture agreements, counseled foreign investors and Ecuadorian corporations focused in international trade, import and export contracts, customs regulations, letters of credits, international and local arbitration and investments in Ecuador. Participated as member of the Ecuadorian Commercial Mission to Italy to promote international trade and foreign investments (2006). Political advisor to presidential candidate and former Ecuadorian Vice President Leon Roldos in agricultural policies related with the negotiation of the Free Trade Agreement with the United States (2006). Legal advisor to Guido Chiriboga while he was serving as Guayas Province's Governor (2005).

### **UESS UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL, Guayaquil, Ecuador**

*Adjunct Professor, 2004-2007*

Taught International Public Law as part of the International Career Program which included foreign students. Participated with other faculty and staff member in the evaluation of the ICP.

### **NAVAL WAR COLLEGE, Guayaquil, Ecuador.**

*Adjunct Professor, 2004-2007*

Taught International Public Law and Constitutional Law to naval officers as part of the courses required to be promoted to higher ranks.

**CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW**, Guayaquil, Ecuador

*Adjunct Professor*, 2000

Taught International Public Law to 1JD students.

**GOMEZ LINCE & ORDEÑANA**, Guayaquil, Ecuador

*Associate*, 1994-1996

Practiced commercial litigation, collected debt, counsel and assist insurance companies on liability issues.

**CARLOS JULIO AROSEMENA LAW FIRM**, Guayaquil, Ecuador

*Associate*, 1991-1994.

Practiced with Carlos Julio Arosemena, former Ecuadorian President, Congressman and member of the Ecuadorian Supreme Court. Represented companies and individuals in labor and commercial litigation. Met with government institutions and officials regarding shrimp farming licenses. Attended political meetings with Dr. Arosemena when he was member of the Ecuadorian Congress (1992), assisted Dr. Arosemena at the Ecuadorian Supreme Court (1994), reviewed trial documents, sorted evidence, research laws and related regulations.

## **EDUCATION**

**UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT SCHOOL OF LAW**, Hartford, CT

LL.M., Master of Laws / U.S. Legal Studies, May 2009.

Courses: International Law, International Business Transaction, Antitrust Law, Immigration Law, Legal Research and Writing, Laws and Institutions of the European Union, Laws and Institutions of the United States, Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

Thesis: The European Court of Justice (ECJ) and the European Banana Market: An analysis of the ECJ's case-law on conflicts between European Community (EC) Law and World Trade Organization (WTO) rules and of remedies against EC breaches of WTO rules available to individuals under EC Law

**CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF GUAYAQUIL SCHOOL OF LAW**, Guayaquil, Ecuador

Attorney at Law, August 1991

GPA 3.7 (9.31/10) **RANK 3/19 \* Honors:** Certificate for highest grades in 1989, 1990 and 1991

**CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF GUAYAQUIL SCHOOL OF LAW**, Guayaquil, Ecuador

Bachelor of Social and Political Science, August 1988

GPA 3.7 (9.21/10) **RANK 2/19 \* Honors:** Certificate for highest grades in the years of 1986, 1987, 1988