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Latin Lawyer 250 2018

Larraín y Asociados

Chile

Banking and finance heavy-hitter

- Established: 1994
- Partners: 12
- Total lawyers: 40

Larraín y Asociados is listed for the first time in chapter. This well-respected firm has come a long way since it was founded in the 1990s. It has distinguished itself in Chile's banking and finance space, steering major funding transactions for a variety of companies. Meanwhile, time spent carefully cultivating international connections has helped it develop an impressive number of clients in Chile's M&A market and it has a leading energy team. Mining is another strength. While the firm faces tough competition in this area of law, it has successfully carved a niche into Chile's most important economic sector.

A talented team of lawyers is behind Larraín y Asociados' success. The partnership is extremely selective about who it hires, picking students from only the best local and foreign universities. Those who work hard are recognised. The firm reinforced its natural resources division at the start of 2017 through a promotion.

Clients

Top clients include American Tower, Antofagasta Minerals, Banco Consorcio, BHP Billiton and SNC Lavalin.

Practice Areas

Banking & finance

Key partners: Jorge Granic is noted for project financing work, particularly in the natural resources industries, while Patricio Montes is an experienced hand in complex work.

Analysis: Banking and finance is Larraín y Asociados' flagship practice. The team is involved in variety of deals, including cross-border credit lines, acquisition financings and financial restructuring cases. Its core client base in the infrastructure and energy sectors, which has allowed it to build a strong profile in project finance work, although the team can boast customers from a wide range of other industries. Client sit on both sides of the table. This department is a safe pair of hands for banking and finance advice and a rising star in Chile's competitive market.

Top deals

- EDF and Andes Mining fund energy acquisition
- Larraín y Asociados behind Sacyr credit line
- · Lenders hire Larraín to finance Chilean airline investor

Corporate and M&A

Key partners: Arturo Bulnes, Jorge Granic and Ricardo Peña.

Analysis: Larraín y Asociados can offer a solid corporate and M&A service that is present on local as well as international deals. There are clear synergies between its corporate division and its finance group and the firm has done good job of cultivating them. Clients from the infrastructure sector were especially prominent in 2017.

Top deals

- <u>Chilean cement producers close acquisition from LafargeHolcim</u>
- Sacyr sells stake in Chilean highway concession

Mining & metals

Key partners: Jorge Granic and Ricardo Peña. Cristóbal Morandé, who spent time at Mayer Brown LLP's Houston office as a foreign associate, made partner in 2017.

Analysis: The firm has a very capable mining practice. It advises client on the development, financing and acquisition of projects. It can also provide litigation advice when affairs go sour. The team remained busy in 2017, despite lacklustre commodity prices.

Work highlights: Larraín y Asociados is helping local mining company Punta del Cobre obtain permits and manage community relations for its El Espino copper project in Chile's Coquimbo. Its counsel extends to the financing agreements needed to get the project off the ground.

Energy

Key partners: Jorge Granic and Cristóbal Morandé.

Analysis: The firm has a good energy practice that can advise clients on the laws and procedures across the entire sector. Its lawyers have represented a range of local and international clients on everything from government concessions and energy-related project finance to power purchase agreements. Both renewables companies and conventional energy developers are customers.

Work highlights: An international solar company has hired the firm to restructure its equity holdings in Chile after selling a majority stake to a competitor. Meanwhile, Larraín y Asociados continues to help Duke Energy wind down operations in Latin America after it announced its US\$1.2 billion exit from the region in late 2016.

Practice areas

Banking & finance

Corporate and M&A

Mining & metals

Energy

Larraín y Asociados in our content

News

<u>Nine firms in wind turbine maker's offering</u>

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Chile

Chile market overview

Chile ended 2017 on a high. Sebastián Piñera, a billionaire entrepreneur beloved by much of the business community, was elected President. The promise ... read more

Recommended firms

recommended firms ordered by size

Carey

Blue-chip titan

Partners: 30

Total lawyers: 215

Barros & Errázuriz Abogados

Full-service offer with transactional clout

Partners: 24

Total lawyers: 128

Philippi Prietocarrizosa Ferrero DU & Uría (Chile)

Corporate heavyweight with regional reach

Partners: 19

Total lawyers: 126

Claro & Cía

Transactional and disputes blue chip

Partners: 19

Total lawyers: 95

Cariola, Díez, Pérez-Cotapos

Forward-looking corporate player

Partners: 23

Total lawyers: 87

Bofill Mir & Alvarez Jana Abogados

Mining tradition with disputes prestige

Partners: 12

Total lawyers: 70

Morales & Besa

Transactional prowess

Partners: 12

Total lawyers: 69

Guerrero Olivos

Prominent corporate innovators

Partners: 16

Total lawyers: 61

Prieto

Respected full-service player

Partners: 17

Total lawyers: 56

FerradaNehme

Expanding regulatory offer

Partners: 7

Total lawyers: 53

Alessandri

Comprehensive offering, renowned for IP

Partners: 11

Total lawyers: 50

CMS Carey & Allende

Corporate firm with loyal client base

Partners: 10

Total lawyers: 42

Baker McKenzie (Chile)

Solid arm of global network

Partners: 12

Total lawyers: 42

Larraín y Asociados

Banking and finance heavy-hitter

Partners: 12

Total lawyers: 40

Aninat Schwencke & Cia

Growing visibility for modern corporate firm

Partners: 8

Total lawyers: 40

Garrigues (Chile)

Local arm of successful Iberian firm

Partners: 9

Total lawyers: 38

Urenda, Rencoret, Orrego y Dörr Abogados

Solid corporate offer

Partners: 11

Total lawyers: 34

Grasty Quintana Majlis & Cia

Respected firm building its profile

Partners: 11

Total lawyers: 31

Vergara Galindo Correa Abogados

Leading environment firm

Partners: 7

Total lawyers: 22

NLD Abogados

Ambitious modern firm

Partners: 6

Total lawyers: 17

Silva & Cía

Leader in IP

Partners: 5

Total lawyers: 10

Núñez, Muñoz & Cía Ltda Abogados

Natural resources expertise

Partners: 3

Total lawyers: 8

LL250 submissions

Practice areas in Chile

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