

Nearly half of all 2016 promotions from Pacific Alliance

Tuesday, 7 February 2017 (4 hours ago) by Lulu Rumsey

Almost half of promotions to partner reported on by Latin Lawyer in 2016 came from Chilean, Colombian, Mexican and Peruvian firms – with firms from the Pacific Alliances reporting more promotions than their Mercosur counterparts.

Partner appointments by firms from Pacific Alliance countries accounted for 44% of all promotions covered by Latin Lawyer in 2016. Promotions by firms from Mercosur countries accounted for a fraction less, 41% of the total.

The latest firms to announce promotions in the Pacific Alliance include Philippi Prietocarrizosa Ferrero DU & Uría's (which added partners to its Chilean and Colombian offices); Chile's Carey & Allende and Larrain y Asociados Abogados; Colombia's Posse Herrera Ruiz and Gómez-Pinzón Zuleta Abogados; Peru's Estudio Olachea and Casahierro Abogados; and Mexico's Curtis, Mallet-Prevost, Colt & Mosle SC and Sánchez Devanny.



Gabriel Sanchez, Juan David Barbosa, María Lucía Posada and Pablo Sierra

Posse Herrera's expansion of its partnership by 25% is the largest partner increase reported by a Colombian firm since the start of 2016 – and one of the largest by any firm from the Pacific Alliance. The firm promoted corporate and M&A lawyer Gabriel Sanchez, 37, international trade lawyer Juan David Barbosa, 38, and disputes practitioners Pablo Enrique Sierra, 45, and Maria Lucía Posada, 39.

Two other Colombian firms have included M&A lawyers in their promotions rounds. Philippi Prietocarrizosa Ferrero DU & Uría (Colombia) added two new partners: corporate and M&A lawyer Nicolás Tirado, 37 – who has worked in New York and Beijing – and competition practitioner Diego Cardona, 39. Gómez-Pinzón Zuleta Abogados has promoted Natalia García Arenas, 40, of its corporate and M&A department, and tax lawyer Ignacio Vélez Vergara, 44. García previously worked as an international associate at Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP in New York.



As firms sought to consolidate post-presidential elections, Peru saw a greater-than-normal volume of new partner appointments in 2016, 22% more than in Chile and 200% more than in Colombia. In January Peruvian firm **Estudio Olavechea** announced it had reinforced its tax practice with the promotion of Carolina Rodríguez, 37. The firm lost senior tax talent in 2016 when Gustavo Lazo left to join Rodrigo, Elías & Medrano Abogados. Another Peruvian firm, Casahierro Abogados, has opted to bolster its banking and finance practice with the hire of José De La Puente Salazar, who joined in November from Peruvian pharmacy operator Quicorp.

In Chile, Philippi Prietocarrizosa Ferrero DU & Uría promoted Eduardo Escalona, 42, of its regulatory department, while Larraín y Asociados has added natural resources, project finance and corporate lawyer Cristóbal Morandé, 37, to the partnership. Meanwhile, Carey & Allende – which recently announced its integration with international law firm CMS – has promoted the head of its labour group, Enzo Canales, 37, to partner.



In Mexico, several firms are using annual promotions rounds to target work in the energy, environment, disputes and antitrust spaces. Curtis Mallet-Prevost has promoted corporate and finance lawyer Antonio De Lisi to partner, while Sánchez Devanny increased its tax partnership by promoting Mariana Eguiarte.

Many of the firms announcing new partners have close links with international firms. Curtis Mallet-Prevost is a New York firm, while three others have international connections; PPU with Spain's Uría Menéndez, Carey & Allende with CMS and Posse Herrera with Cuatrecasas, Gonçalves Pereira.

Pacific Alliance states have been at the heart of numerous international firms' Latin American expansion strategies in the last few years. Of the four Pacific Alliance states, Colombia's legal market has arguably been most saturated by foreign firms. But internationals have a growing interest in Chile, as well as a well-established presence in both Mexico and Peru.

Recent Latin Lawyer 250 promotions in Chile

Month announced	Year	Firm	Partners prior to promotions	No. new partners	% increase to the partnership
December	2016	Philippi Prietocarrizosa Ferrero DU & Uría (Chile)	18	1	5.5

January	2017	Carey & Allende	7	1	14.3
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Recent Latin Lawyer 250 promotions in Colombia

Month announced	Year	Firm	Partners prior to promotions	No. new partners	% increase to the partnership
January	2017	Gómez-Pinzón Zuleta Abogados	14	2	14.2
January	2017	<u>Philippi Prietocarrizosa Ferrero DU & Uría (Colombia)</u>	14	2	14.2
January	2017	<u>Posse Herrera Ruiz</u>	16	4	25

Recent Latin Lawyer 250 promotions in Mexico

Month announced	Year	Firm	Partners prior to promotions	No. new partners	% increase to the partnership
January	2017	<u>Curtis, Mallet-Prevost, Colt & Mosle SC</u>	7	1	14.3
January	2017	Sánchez Devanny	17	1	5.9

Recent Latin Lawyer 250 promotions in Peru

Month announced	Year	Firm	Partners prior to promotions	No. new partners	% increase to the partnership
January	2017	Estudio Olaechea	14	1	7

Comments

There are currently no comments.