

## AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

**AS PARTY OF THE FIRST PART:** The **PUERTO RICO FISCAL AGENCY AND FINANCIAL ADVISORY AUTHORITY** (hereinafter, the "Authority"), a public corporation of the Government of Puerto Rico created by Act No. 2-2017 ("Act 2"), represented herein by its Director of the Office of Administrative Affairs, Guillermo Camba Casas, of legal age, single, and resident of Guaynabo, Puerto Rico, duly authorized and empowered to execute this Agreement pursuant to Resolution No. 2021-07 of the Board of Directors of the Authority.

**AS PARTY OF THE SECOND PART: PIETRANTONI MÉNDEZ & ÁLVAREZ LLC**, a limited liability company organized and existing under the laws of Puerto Rico, with offices at Popular Center 19<sup>th</sup> Floor, 208 Ponce de León Ave., San Juan, Puerto Rico, 00918, represented herein by its Managing Member, Jaime E. Santos Mimoso, of legal age, married, and a resident of Guaynabo (hereinafter, the "Consultant" and, collectively with the Authority, the "Parties").

### WITNESSETH

**WHEREAS**, the Authority was created for the purpose of acting as fiscal agent, financial advisor, and reporting agent for all the entities comprising the Government of Puerto Rico and to assist them in facing the serious fiscal and economic crisis that Puerto Rico is currently undergoing; and

**WHEREAS**, the Authority was empowered to collaborate in conjunction with the Governor of Puerto Rico and his representatives in the creation, execution, supervision, and oversight of any Fiscal Plan and any Budget, as such terms are defined in the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act, known as PROMESA, Pub. L. 114–187, June 30, 2016, 130 Stat. 549; and

**WHEREAS**, the Authority is the entity of the Government of Puerto Rico in charge of supervising, executing, and administering the Fiscal Plan certified in accordance with PROMESA, and shall ensure that all the entities comprising the Government of Puerto Rico comply with the duly certified Fiscal Plan and Budget; and

**WHEREAS**, the Authority is the only entity of the Government of Puerto Rico authorized to, on behalf of the Government of Puerto Rico or any component thereof, negotiate, restructure, or enter into agreements with creditors in connection with any debt of the Government of Puerto Rico, whether present or future debt; and

**WHEREAS**, the Authority was empowered to negotiate and execute any type of contract, including all those instruments and agreements necessary or convenient to exercise the powers and functions conferred to the Authority by Act 2; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to the above, by means of Resolution No. 2021-79 adopted by the Board of Directors of the Authority on June 16, 2021, the

Authority is authorize to engage the services of the Consultant as described in this Agreement for Professional Services (the “Agreement”).

**WHEREAS**, the Consultant is full service law firm that specializes in multiple practice areas and provides a wide range of legal services to its clients from both the public and private sectors. The Consultant has previously provided services to the Authority in connection with a various legal matters; and

**WHEREAS**, the Authority wishes to engage the Consultant to continue providing such legal services, and the Consultant is willing to provide them on and subject to the terms and conditions set forth below.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Authority and the Consultant enter into this Agreement under the following:

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**TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

**FIRST - SERVICES:** The Authority hereby engages the Consultant, and the Consultant hereby agrees, to provide specialized legal and consulting services which require certain level of expertise, when the volume and complexity requires it and/or as it may be requested by the Authority, including, but not limited to, the following work streams: (i) PROMESA’s Title III and Title VI matters, (ii) corporate and legislative matters, (iii) provide support regarding audits conducted by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service, (iv) as well as any other legal and consulting service that may be requested from time to time (the “Services”). The Services will be provided on and subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement and in accordance with the Proposal dated

June 7, 2021 (the "Proposal"), a copy of which is incorporated and made part hereof as an appendix to this Agreement. If any part of the Proposal is found to be inconsistent with the terms and conditions set forth herein, the terms and conditions set forth herein shall take precedence over the Proposal and govern the matter in question.

Both Parties acknowledge and accept that all or some of the Services may be rendered to any entity of the Executive Branch with which the Authority enters into an interagency agreement with or as determined by the Office of the Chief of Staff of the Governor of Puerto Rico. The Services shall be rendered under the same terms and conditions with respect to work hours and compensation as set forth in this Agreement. For purposes of this provision, the term "entity of the Executive Branch" includes all agencies of the Government of Puerto Rico, as well as instrumentalities, public corporations and the Governor's Office.

In connection with the above, both Parties acknowledge and accept that the Consultant may be requested by the Authority to provide Services related to any present or potential case and/or claim reasonably related to the debt of any entity of the Executive Branch and that, in such cases, the Authority will not be required to enter into an interagency agreement with such entity, provided that the Authority shall be responsible for the payment of the Services provided by the Contractor to such entity in accordance with the terms of this Agreement. The Parties acknowledge and accept that this faculty of the Authority is consistent

with those powers and faculties conferred by Act 2-2017, including its Section 5(d) and (d)(vi), and its Section 8(q).

The Parties hereby acknowledge the requirements and procedures set forth in Administrative Bulletin No. OE-2021-029

issued by the Governor of Puerto Rico, Hon. Pedro R. Pierluisi, on April 27, 2021 ("OE-2021-29") and Circular Letter No. 013-2021 issued on June 7, 2021 by the Office of Management and Budget ("CC 013-2021"), applicable to professional services agreements with an amount of \$250,000 or more per fiscal year. However, this Agreement constitutes a contract renewal of services previously engaged with the Consultant. Consequently, in accordance with the exceptions authorized in OE-2021-29 and CC 013-2021, the execution of this Agreement is exempt from the requirements and procedures established in the abovementioned provisions.

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**SECOND - TERM OF AGREEMENT:** This Agreement shall be in effect from **August 1, 2021** until **June 30, 2022**, unless earlier terminated as provided herein or extended by amendment executed in writing by both Parties.

**THIRD - TERMINATION:** Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in this Agreement, the Authority shall have the right to terminate this Agreement at any time, for convenience, by providing the Consultant thirty (30) day's prior notice either by registered mail, return receipt requested, overnight express mail, hand delivery or to the electronic mail address provided by the

Consultant. This Agreement shall terminate on the date indicated in the notice, which shall be at least thirty (30) days following the date of such notice.

Likewise, the Consultant shall have the right to terminate this Agreement by providing the Authority thirty (30) day's prior written notice to the attention of the Executive Director of the Authority, or to the person designated for the management of this Agreement, by registered mail, return receipt requested, overnight express mail, hand delivery or electronic mail.

The rights, duties, and responsibilities of the Authority and the Consultant shall continue in full force and effect during the applicable notice period. The Authority shall be obligated to pay all fees and expenses incurred up to the date of termination, in accordance with the terms of this Agreement. The Consultant shall have no further right to compensation except for amounts accrued for Services rendered under this Agreement until said date.

The Consultant's failure to comply with its duties and responsibilities and to perform the Services as set forth herein, or failure to abide to its ethical or professional standards, or its negligence or unlawful behavior (including, without limitation, conviction in a Puerto Rico or United States Federal court under Articles 4.2, 4.3 or 5.7 of Act No. 1-2012, as amended, known as the "Enabling Act of the Office of Government Ethics of Puerto Rico", of any of the crimes listed in Articles 250 through 266 of Act No. 146-2012, as amended, known as the "Puerto Rico Penal Code", any of the crimes typified in Act No. 2-2018, as amended, known as the "Anti-Corruption Code for a New Puerto Rico" or any

other felony that involves misuse of public funds or property, including but not limited to the crimes mentioned in Article 6.8 of Act No. 8-2017, as amended, known as the “Act for the Administration and Transformation of Human Resources in the Government of Puerto Rico”), shall constitute a breach of the Agreement by the Consultant that shall entitle the Authority to terminate this Agreement immediately and shall, without limitations as to any other rights, release and discharge the Authority from any further obligations and liabilities hereunder, and without having to comply with the notice requirements set forth in first paragraph of this THIRD Clause.

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The Consultant also acknowledges that the Office of the Chief of Staff of the Governor of Puerto Rico shall have the authority to terminate this Agreement at any time.

The assignment of this Agreement by either Party shall be sufficient cause to terminate it immediately, unless the assignment is made by the Authority to (i) a successor entity of the Authority, in which case, such assignment shall be considered effective with only a written notice to the Consultant, or (ii) any entity of the Executive Branch as permitted pursuant to this Agreement. Upon such occurrence, this Agreement shall be binding and inure to the benefit of the Authority’s successors and assigns.

**FOURTH - INVOICES:** The Consultant will submit monthly invoices to the Authority that shall identify and include itemized details for each undertaking complying with the Authority’s billing guidelines attached hereto as an appendix

of this Agreement. The invoices must be duly certified by an authorized representative of the Consultant as provided below. All invoices for expenses must also be duly certified by the Consultant and must be accompanied by copies of the receipts for expenses for which the Consultant seeks reimbursement, as required under the SIXTH Clause of this Agreement. If such required receipts are not provided with the invoice, the Authority will not pay the same.

The Authority will not accept invoices for Services rendered that are submitted more than one hundred twenty (120) days after the Services covered thereby have been rendered. The Consultant agrees and waives all right to payment for Services rendered that are not invoiced within one hundred twenty (120) days.

The Authority reserves the right to review the invoices, and if they are in compliance with the requirements set forth in this Agreement, it will proceed with payment.

Invoices must also include a written certification stating that no officer or employee of the Authority will derive or obtain any benefit or profit of any kind from this Agreement. Invoices that do not include this certification will not be accepted. This certification must read as follows:

**“We certify under penalty of nullity that no public servant of the Puerto Rico Fiscal Agency and Financial Advisory Authority will derive or obtain any benefit or profit of any kind from the contractual relationship which is the basis of this invoice. If such benefit or profit exists, the required waiver has been obtained prior to entering into the Agreement. The only consideration to be received in exchange for the delivery of goods or for the**



**Services provided is the agreed-upon price that has been negotiated with an authorized representative of the Puerto Rico Fiscal Agency and Financial Advisory Authority. The total amount shown on this invoice is true and correct. The Services have been rendered, and no payment has been received.”**

All invoices shall be signed by an authorized representative of the Consultant and send by email to the following address: [invoice@aafaf.pr.gov](mailto:invoice@aafaf.pr.gov).

If requested by the Authority, the Consultant shall also send its signed invoices via mail to the following address or personally deliver them to the attention of:

MAILING ADDRESS

PHYSICAL ADDRESS

**PUERTO RICO FISCAL AGENCY AND  
FINANCIAL ADVISORY AUTHORITY  
PREINTERVENTION  
PO Box 42001  
San Juan, PR 00940-2001**

**PUERTO RICO FISCAL AGENCY AND  
FINANCIAL ADVISORY AUTHORITY  
PREINTERVENTION  
De Diego Avenue No. 100  
Roberto Sánchez Vilella  
Government Center – Central Building  
Floor G  
Santurce, PR 00907-2345**

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The Consultant agrees to submit checking account transfer data to the Authority in order to facilitate future payments by means of electronic transfers.

The Authority certifies that the funds for the payment of Services rendered under this Agreement come from budgetary allocations. All disbursements for such payments shall be made from account 580906-7000-006-2022.

**FIFTH - PAYMENT:** The Authority will pay the Consultant for the Services rendered on an hourly rate basis as stipulated in the schedule attached hereto as an appendix to this Agreement. The Consultant agrees to maintain the

hourly rates as set forth in the Proposal during the Term of this Agreement. Invoices must identify entries for fractions of an hour based on tenths of an hour (.10). The total amount payable by the Authority to the Consultant under this Agreement, including reimbursable expenses, shall not exceed **FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$500,000.00)** (the "Maximum Amount").

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Should the Consultant assign an attorney not included in the hourly rates schedule attached as appendix hereto to attend the Authority's matters, the Consultant shall promptly send the Authority an amended schedule to include such person's name, position and hourly rate, and request written approval from the Authority for such amended schedule.

The Consultant agrees to notify the Authority within five (5) business days after having reached three-fourths (3/4) of the Maximum Amount. The written notification shall include a detailed report of projected Services for the duration of the Agreement, and indicate if an increase in the Maximum Amount is expected. The Consultant understands and accepts that it may not exceed the Maximum Amount without a prior written amendment to this Agreement executed by the Parties.

The Consultant acknowledges and agrees that retroactive contracting is contrary to government contracting requirements and that the Authority will not issue retroactive payments. The Consultant acknowledges and agrees that

Services rendered before the date of execution or before the effective date of the Agreement, as applicable, will not be paid by the Authority.

The Consultant further acknowledges and agrees that the Authority has the right to recover any erroneous payment, including but not limited to, any overpayment, duplicate payment and/or any other payment not authorized by law, regulation, and/or this Agreement. The Consultant agrees to promptly return any erroneous payment to the Authority upon receipt of a written notice. In addition, if the Consultant becomes aware of an erroneous payment made by the Authority, the Consultant shall immediately notify the Authority's management and request instructions to proceed accordingly. The Consultant acknowledges and agrees that the Authority reserves the right to make the necessary adjustments in any remaining payments to the Consultant until any erroneous amount paid is recovered.

**SIXTH - EXPENSES:** The Authority may reimburse the Consultant for out of pocket expenses directly related to the Services and not considered part of the usual overhead of a professional office. The out of pocket expenses may include costs directly associated with rendering the Services, including travel and lodging, filing fees, printing, delivery expenses, overnight mail, courier and messenger charges.

Any expense for which a reimbursement is requested shall be reasonable and necessary, and any extraordinary expenses shall be authorized in writing and in advance by the Authority. The Authority will not reimburse expenses which

do not comply with this provision. Under no circumstances will expenses for alcoholic beverages be reimbursed.

Any petition for reimbursement of expenses must be accompanied by the corresponding invoice or receipt and shall specify the relation of the expense to the Services rendered. All reimbursements shall be for actual expenses incurred and shall be billed at cost. The total amount invoiced as expenses during the term of this Agreement shall not exceed **five percent (5%)** of the Maximum Amount. The Consultant may not exceed such amount without the prior written authorization of the Authority's Executive Director or any authorized representative of the Authority and a corresponding written amendment to this Agreement executed by the Parties.

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When traveling outside of Puerto Rico is required to provide the Services under this Agreement, only the Consultant's Approved Persons for Travel mentioned in the list attached hereto as an appendix to this Agreement shall be authorized to travel, unless otherwise authorized by the Authority's Executive Director or an authorized representative responsible for the management of this Agreement. If the Consultant needs to assign another person to travel and such person is not included in the Consultant's Approved Persons for Travel list, the Consultant shall promptly send the Authority an amended and updated said appendix, including such person's name and/or position and requesting written approval from the Authority prior to incurring any travel and lodging costs. In

order for the Authority to reimburse travel and lodging costs, they shall be authorized in writing and in advance by the Authority.

For travel to places outside of Puerto Rico, the Authority will notify the Consultant the lodging allowances applicable to the place of travel, which shall be those published by the U.S. General Services Administration and the Defense Travel Management Office of the Department of Defense. Reimbursement for air travel expenses is restricted to the lowest economy class or coach fares available to the place of travel. In the event a scheduled trip is cancelled for reasons not attributable to the Consultant, the Authority will assume the cost of any penalty. The Authority shall not pay for travel time, unless specific Services are rendered during travel time. Payment for travel time shall be made only if the invoice details the Services rendered and the time billed on each matter, as required in this Agreement.

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**SEVENTH - SUBCONTRACTING:** The Consultant shall not subcontract the Services under this Agreement, or contract third-party experts or other persons to render the Services under this Agreement, without prior written authorization from the Authority. A request to hire a subcontractor shall specify the issues in which such subcontractor would take part. The professional fees earned by these persons will be deducted from the Maximum Amount that the Consultant can receive under this Agreement.

From time to time, the Consultant may utilize the Services of personnel from its affiliates, if any, in providing Services under this Agreement, at its own

cost, without the need to seek the consent of the Authority. However, the Consultant shall remain primarily responsible for providing the Services hereunder. The Authority agrees that none of the Consultant's affiliates, or their respective partners, principals or employees, who perform work under this Agreement, will have any liability to the Authority in connection with the Services or this Agreement. Nevertheless, the Consultant assumes all liability as to the work performed by its affiliates, their respective partners, principals or employees under this Agreement, subject to the limitation on liability contained in the FIFTEENTH Clause of this Agreement.

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**EIGHTH - REPORTS:** The Consultant shall submit in writing any reports required by the Authority regarding the Services performed under this Agreement. If required by the Authority, at the completion of the assigned tasks, the Consultant will submit a final written report regarding the work it has performed. This requirement shall not be interpreted as a waiver by the Authority of the Consultant's ethical obligation and responsibility of keeping the Authority informed of the progress of the assigned matters. This obligation includes the Consultant's commitment to submit status and progress reports of all assigned matters as required by the Authority and preparing and delivering to the Authority's external auditors, in a timely manner, the legal letters periodically

requested in connection with pending or threatened litigation, claims and assessments or loss contingencies, as part of the financial statements audit process for the Authority. The Consultant shall not invoice the time spent in preparing these status reports and letters to auditors, as it is understood that both are administrative obligations complementary to the services rendered hereunder. The Authority will provide to the Consultant all the documentation necessary for the adequate fulfillment of the Consultant's obligations under this Agreement.

In accordance with the provisions of the FOMB's Policy for Review of Contracts effective as of November 6, 2017, as modified on April 30, 2021 (the "FOMB's Policy"), the Parties hereby certify that the professional services rendered under this Agreement are specialized professional services and that, pursuant to said provisions of the FOMB's Policy, the requirement to transfer the skills and/or technical knowledge does not apply.

**NINTH - OWNERSHIP OF DATA:** All rights, title and interest in and to any data, information and other materials furnished to Consultant by the Authority hereunder (the "Authority Information") are and shall remain the Authority's sole and exclusive property. The Authority hereby grants to the Consultant a revocable, limited and non-exclusive license to use such Authority Information to the extent required to provide the Services described herein. Except as provided below, upon full and final payment to the Consultant hereunder, all Consultant's work product created in connection with the Services (the "Deliverables") shall become the property of the Authority.

The Authority acknowledges the proprietary and confidential nature of Consultant's ideas, methods, methodologies, procedures, processes, know-how, and techniques (including, without limitation, function, process, system and data models), templates, software systems, user interfaces and screen designs, general purpose consulting and software tools, websites, benefit administration systems, and data, documentation, and proprietary information that the Authority may have access to or receive under this Agreement (collectively, "Consultant Information"). To the extent that any Consultant Information is contained in any of the Deliverables, subject to the terms of this Agreement, Consultant hereby grants to the Authority a paid-up, perpetual, royalty-free, nonexclusive license to use such Consultant Information for the Authority's use in connection with the Deliverables. To the extent that Consultant utilizes any of its intellectual property or know-how, including, without limitation, the Consultant Information, in connection with the performance of Services, such property shall remain the property of Consultant and, except for the limited license expressly granted in the preceding paragraph, the Authority shall acquire no right or interest in such property. The Authority will honor Consultant's copyrights, patents, and trademarks relating to Services, Deliverables and Consultant Information, and will not use Consultant's name or other intellectual property without Consultant's prior written consent.

The Authority will use reasonable efforts to cause its employees to minimize distribution and duplication and prevent unauthorized disclosure of the Consultant Information. Subject to applicable freedom of information act requirements, the



Authority will not disclose Consultant Information to a third party without the prior written consent of Consultant.

**TENTH - CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION:** The Consultant acknowledges the proprietary and confidential nature of all internal, non-public, information systems, financial, and business information now or hereafter provided to the Consultant relating to the Authority, the Government of Puerto Rico, its agencies, corporations and municipalities, (collectively, “Confidential Information”). The term “Confidential Information,” however, shall not include information within the public domain or that is furnished to the Consultant by a third party who is under no obligation to keep the information confidential.

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The Consultant and its employees, affiliates and authorized subcontractors agree to keep in strict confidence all Confidential Information provided by the Authority, its personnel, subsidiary corporations and affiliates and their personnel, the Government of Puerto Rico, its municipalities, agencies, and corporations, in connection with the execution of this Agreement. The Consultant further agrees, in connection with all Confidential Information, that, it (i) shall not make public or disclose any Confidential Information without the previous written consent of the Authority, (ii) shall use such Confidential Information only to perform its obligations under this Agreement; and (iii) will reproduce the Confidential Information only as required to perform its obligations under this Agreement.

In addition, the provisions of this Clause shall not prohibit the Consultant from making any disclosure pursuant to any subpoena or order of a court, or a governmental, administrative tribunal or authority which may assert jurisdiction over the Consultant or pursuant to applicable professional standards; provided that the Consultant shall promptly notify the Authority of any such disclosure obligations and reasonably cooperate with the Authority's efforts to lawfully avoid and/or minimize the extent of such disclosure.

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The Consultant may divulge Confidential Information to the persons who need to know such Confidential Information to fulfill the purposes of this engagement, provided that such persons (i) shall have been advised of the confidential nature of the information and the Consultant shall direct them, and they shall agree in writing, to treat such information as Confidential Information and to return all divulged materials to the Consultant upon request but for one copy for record purposes only; and (ii) in each case, such persons shall be bound by obligations of confidentiality and non-use consistent with and at least as stringent as those set forth in this Agreement.

In connection with the Services, the Consultant will furnish the Authority any necessary reports, analyses or other such materials as the Authority may request. The Authority, however, acknowledges that the Consultant may develop for itself, or for others, problem solving approaches, frameworks or other tools and processes developed in performing the Services, and nothing contained herein precludes the Consultant from developing or disclosing such materials and

information provided that the same do not contain or reflect Confidential Information.

Furthermore, the Consultant shall return all Confidential Information to the Authority within thirty (30) days following the date of termination of this Agreement or, at the Authority's election, destroy such information, certifying that all the information has been returned to the Authority or destroyed, but for one copy for record purposes only and other than electronic information held in archive and/or backup files to the extent such files cannot be deleted without unreasonable effort or expense and created in the ordinary course pursuant to established data backup/archive procedures. The Consultant shall not invoice the time spent to gather and deliver such information, as it is understood that this is an administrative obligation complementary to the Services rendered hereunder. During this thirty (30) day period, these documents shall be available for inspection by the Office of the Comptroller of Puerto Rico.

This provision shall survive the expiration or earlier termination of this Agreement.

**ELEVENTH - CONFLICT OF INTERESTS:** The Consultant acknowledges that, in performing the Services pursuant to this Agreement, it has the obligation to exhibit complete loyalty towards the Authority, including having no adverse interest to this government entity.

The Consultant certifies that is not currently aware of any relationship that would create a conflict of interest with the Authority or those parties-in-interest

of which the Authority has made the Consultant aware. The Parties acknowledge that no public officer or employee of the Authority with the power to execute or authorize this Agreement has knowledge that the Consultant represents particular interests in cases or issues involving conflict of interest or public policy between the Authority and the particular interests represented by the Consultant.

The project team members of the Consultant providing Services under this Agreement will not provide similar products and/or Services to any of the agencies, public corporations, municipalities or instrumentalities of the Government of Puerto Rico, as well as to any other private or public party that are deemed by Consultant to have an adverse interest to the Authority, during the term of this Agreement and for six (6) months after its expiration or earlier termination, in connection with matters relating to the Authority, without the express written consent of the Authority, which, unless prohibited by applicable law, will not be unreasonably withheld.

The Consultant represents conflicting interests when, on behalf of one client it must support that which it is its duty to oppose to comply with its obligations with another previous, present or potential client. Also, it represents conflicting interests when its conduct is described as such in the standards of ethics applicable to its profession or industry, or in Puerto Rico's laws and regulations. The conduct herein described by one of Consultant's directors, partners, employees or subcontractors shall constitute a violation of this prohibition. The Consultant shall avoid even the appearance of the existence of conflicting interests.

The Consultant certifies that at the time of the execution of this Agreement, it does not have nor does it represent particular interests in cases or matters that imply a conflict of interests, or of public policy, between the Authority and the particular interests it represents. If such conflicting interests arise after the execution of this Agreement, the Consultant shall notify the Authority immediately.

Both Parties hereby declare that, to the best of their knowledge, no public officer or employee of the Authority, the Government of Puerto Rico, or any of its agencies, instrumentalities, public corporations or municipalities, or employee of the Legislative or Judicial branches of the Government has any direct or indirect interest in the present Agreement. The Parties further acknowledge that no public officer or employee is a party to or has any interest in any profits or benefits produced by this Agreement and that no public officer or employee of the Authority with the power to approve or authorize contracts on behalf of the Authority, or any member of his or her family unit, has or has had any direct or indirect economic interests with the Consultant during the last four (4) years prior to said public officer or employee holding office.

The Consultant certifies that neither it, nor any of its directors, executives, officers or employees, offered or paid, directly or indirectly, any commissions, referrals, contracts, or any other consideration having an economic value, to a third party as a condition for obtaining this Agreement or to influence in any way its execution. In addition, the Consultant certifies that it shall not pay any

commissions, make any referrals, execute any contracts, or provide any other consideration having an economic value, to a third party for the Services to be rendered under this Agreement, except for any subcontracts authorized by the Authority in accordance with the provisions established herein.

The Consultant also certifies that none of its partners, directors, executives, officers and employees receives salary or any kind of compensation for the rendering of regular services by appointment (or otherwise) in any agency, instrumentality, public corporation, or municipality of the Government of Puerto Rico. The Parties acknowledge that this Agreement is not executed with or for the benefit of persons who have been public officers or employees of the Authority.

**TWELFTH - INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR STATUS:** The Authority and the Consultant agree that the Consultant's status hereunder, and the status of any agents, employees, affiliates and approved subcontractors engaged by the Consultant, shall be that of an independent contractor only and not that of an employee or agent of the Authority or any entity of the Executive Branch. The Consultant shall not have any power or right to enter into agreements on behalf of the Authority.

**THIRTEENTH - CONTRACTING REQUIREMENTS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO:** The Consultant will comply will all applicable laws, regulations and executive orders that regulate the contracting process and requirements of the Government of Puerto Rico, including *Act No. 73-2019*, as amended, known as the "2019 General Services Administration Act

for the Centralization of Purchases of the Government of Puerto Rico” (“Act 73-2019”).

In compliance with the provisions of Act 73-2019, the Consultant has provided the Authority the Certification of Eligibility of the Unique Registry of Professional Services Providers (known in Spanish as “*Certificado de Elegibilidad del Registro Único de Proveedores de Servicios Profesionales*”, and hereinafter referred to as the “RUP Certification”), issued by the General Services Administration. It is hereby acknowledged that pursuant to the provisions of Article 42 of Act 73-2019, a valid RUP Certification serves as evidence of compliance with the documentation requirements necessary for contracting professional services with the Government of Puerto Rico, particularly those required under *Act No. 237-2004*, as amended, which establishes uniform contracting requirements for professional and consultant services for the agencies and governmental entities of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (3 L.P.R.A. § 8611 et seq.), the Puerto Rico Department of Treasury Circular Letter Number 1300-16-16 issued on January 22, 2016, as amended, which is available at:

<http://www.hacienda.pr.gov/publicaciones/carta-circular-num-1300-16-16>, and the sworn statement before notary public required pursuant to Article 3.3 of *Act 2-2018*, (3 L.P.R.A. § 1883b), as amended, known as “Anti-Corruption Code for a New Puerto Rico”. In addition, the RUP Certification substitutes the Single Debt Certification (“Certificación Única de Deuda”), issued pursuant to Act 85-2009, as amended, known in Spanish as “*Ley de Certificados y Comprobantes*

*Electrónicos*”, which serves as evidence of compliance with certifications issued by the Department of Treasury of Puerto Rico, the Department of Labor and Human Resources of Puerto Rico, the Municipal Revenue Collection Center, and ASUME (as defined below).

Further, the Consultant hereby certifies, guarantees, acknowledges and agrees to the following:

- A. **Department of Treasury of Puerto Rico:** Pursuant to Executive Order Number OE-1991-24 of June 18, 1991 (“EO-1991-24”) and Act No. 237-2004, as amended, the Consultant hereby certifies and guarantees that it has filed all the necessary and required income tax returns to the Government of Puerto Rico for the last five (5) years. The Consultant, further certifies that it has complied and is current with the payment of any and all income taxes that are or were due to the Government of Puerto Rico. During the term of this Agreement, the Consultant agrees to pay and/or to remain current with any repayment plan agreed to by the Consultant with the Government of Puerto Rico. For these purposes, absent a valid RUP Certification, the Consultant shall present to the Authority a debt certification issued by the Department of Treasury or a Single Debt Certification (as defined above), together with the last invoice to be submitted for Services rendered. The Consultant agrees to cancel any debt that cannot be clarified or cleared with the Department of the Treasury of

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Puerto Rico, by withholding from the payments entitled to receive under this Agreement. *Executive Order 1991OE24*.

- B. **Department of Labor and Human Resources of Puerto Rico**: Pursuant to Executive Order Number 1992-52 of August 28, 1992, which amends EO-1991-24, the Consultant hereby certifies and warrants that it has made and will continue to make all payments required for unemployment benefits, workmen's compensation and social security for chauffeurs, whichever is applicable, or that in lieu thereof, has subscribed a payment plan in connection with any such unpaid items and is in full compliance with the terms thereof. *Executive Order 1992OE52*.
- C. **Department of State of Puerto Rico**: If applicable, the Consultant certifies that it is duly authorized to do business in Puerto Rico and has complied with its annual filing obligations before the Department of State of Puerto Rico.
- D. **Municipal Revenue Collection Center (known in Spanish as "Centro de Recaudación de Ingresos Municipales", and hereinafter referred to by its acronym "CRIM")**: The Consultant hereby certifies and guarantees that it does not have any current debt with regards to real and personal property taxes that may be registered with CRIM. The Consultant further certifies that it is current with the payment of any and all property taxes that are or were due to the Government of Puerto Rico or any instrumentality thereof. The Consultant agrees to pay and/or to remain

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current with any payment plan agreed to by the Consultant with the Government of Puerto Rico with regards to its property taxes. 3 L.P.R.A. § 8611 et seq.; 21 L.P.R.A. § 5001 et seq.

E. **Child Support Administration (known in Spanish as “Administración para el Sustento de Menores”, and hereinafter referred to by its acronym, “ASUME”)**: The Consultant certifies that neither the Consultant nor any of its owners, affiliates or subsidiaries, if applicable, have any debt or legal procedures to collect child support payments registered with ASUME. 3 L.P.R.A. § 8611 et seq.

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F. **Social Security and Income Tax Withholdings**: In compliance with E-1991-24 and C.F.R. Part 404 et. seq., the Consultant will be responsible for paying the Federal Social Security and Income Tax Contributions for any amount owed as a result of the income from this Agreement. *Executive Order 1991-E24*; C.F.R. Part 404 et. seq.

G. **Income Tax Withholdings Law**: The Consultant is an independent contractor and, as such, agrees and acknowledges that it has sole responsibility and liability for any and all taxes, contributions, penalties, interest, licenses, fees or other sums payable in connection with the fees and expenses paid pursuant to this Agreement, including, without limitation, any Commonwealth, federal and local income taxes, tax withholdings, excise taxes, sales and use taxes, payroll taxes, municipal taxes and any other taxes applicable under the tax laws of Puerto Rico, the

United States, or any other jurisdiction, as such laws may be amended from time to time. Notwithstanding the foregoing, unless the Consultant provides to the Authority a waiver or exemption certificate issued by the Department of the Treasury, the Parties hereby agree that the Authority shall withhold and submit to the Department of the Treasury all amounts required to be withheld pursuant to the Puerto Rico Internal Revenue Code of 2011, as amended from time to time, and any other taxes required to be withheld under any applicable laws, as amended from time to time. In addition to the foregoing, if applicable, the Authority shall also withhold the special contribution of one point five percent (1.5%) of the gross amounts paid under this Agreement as required by Act No. 48-2013, as amended, and shall forward such withholdings to the Department of Treasury. The Authority will also notify the Department of Treasury of all payments and reimbursements made to the Consultant. 2011 L.P.R. 232; 3 L.P.R.A. §8611.

YES

- H. **Enabling Act of the Office of Government Ethics of Puerto Rico, Act No. 1-2012, as amended:** The Consultant certifies that it is in compliance with Act No. 1 of January 3, 2012, as amended, known as the Enabling Act of the Office of Government Ethics of Puerto Rico ("Act No. 1-2012").
- I. **Act for the Improvement of Family Assistance and for the Support of the Elderly, Act. No. 168-2000, as amended:** The Consultant hereby certifies that if there is any judicial or administrative order demanding

payment or any economic support under the Act for the Improvement of Family Assistance and for the Support of the Elderly (known in Spanish as “*Ley de Mejoras al Sustento de Personas de Edad Avanzada de Puerto Rico*”), Act. No. 168-2000, as amended, the same is current and in all aspects in compliance. 8 L.P.R.A. §711 et seq.

J. **Agreement Registration in the Office of the Comptroller of Puerto Rico, Act No. 18 of October 30, 1975, as amended:**

No party shall be obliged to comply with the provisions of this Agreement until it is duly registered in the Office of the Comptroller of Puerto Rico pursuant to Act No. 18 of October 30, 1975, as amended.

K. **Code of Ethics for Contractors, Suppliers, and Applicants for Economic Incentives of the Government of Puerto Rico, Chapter III**

*JES*  
**of Act No. 2-2018:** The Consultant hereby recognizes and agrees that it shall be bound by and comply with all applicable provisions of the Code of Ethics for Contractors, Suppliers, and Applicants for Economic Incentives of the Government of Puerto Rico (known in Spanish as “*Código de Ética para Contratistas, Suplidores y Solicitantes de Incentivos Económicos del Gobierno de Puerto Rico*”), Chapter III of Act No. 2-2018. The Consultant acknowledges that it has received a copy of Act 2-2018, and agrees to abide and comply with its dispositions.

L. **Certification of other government agreements:** The Consultant hereby certifies that, at the time of execution of this Agreement, it does not have

any other agreement with any agency, public corporation, municipality, or instrumentality of the Government of Puerto Rico, except for:

1. Puerto Rico Public-Private Partnerships Authority,
2. Puerto Rico Sales Tax Financing Corporation, and
3. Government Development Bank for Puerto Rico.

The Consultant certifies that said agreements are not in conflict with the Services provided hereunder.

**M. Negative Certification of Criminal Procedures:** The Consultant certifies and guarantees that, at the execution of this Agreement, neither the Consultant, nor any of its partners, associates, officers, directors, employees, agents or subcontractors have been convicted or have been found guilty in any Puerto Rico or United States Federal court for any of the crimes included under Articles 4.2, 4.3 or 5.7 of Act No. 1-2012, any of the crimes listed in Articles 250 through 266 of Act No. 146-2012, as amended, known as the Puerto Rico Penal Code, any of the crimes under Act No. 2-2018 or any other felony that involves misuse of public funds or property, including, but not limited to the crimes mentioned in Article 6.8 of Act No. 8-2017, as amended, known as the Act for the Administration and Transformation of Human Resources in the Government of Puerto Rico ("Act No. 8-2017"). The Authority shall have the right to terminate this Agreement in the event the Consultant is convicted in a Puerto Rico or United States federal court for any of the aforementioned crimes.

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Furthermore, neither the Consultant, nor any of the aforementioned persons, has knowledge of any of the foregoing being the subject of any investigation in either a civil or a criminal procedure in a state or federal court, for criminal or civil charges related to the public treasury, the public trust, a public function, or a fault that involves public funds or property. If the status of the Consultant or any of its partners, associates, officers, directors, employees, agents or subcontractors, with regards to the charges previously mentioned should change at any time during the term of the Agreement, the Consultant shall notify the Authority immediately. The failure to comply with this responsibility constitutes a violation of this Clause.

3ES  
N. **Investment Act for the Puerto Rican Industry, Act No. 14-2004, as**

**amended:** In compliance with the dispositions of Act No. 14-2004, known as the Investment Act for the Puerto Rican Industry, the Consultant shall use articles extracted, produced, assembled, packaged or distributed by companies with operations in Puerto Rico or distributed by agents established in Puerto Rico while rendering the Services, provided such articles are available.

O. **Financial Oversight and Management Board for Puerto Rico's**

**("FOMB") Policy for Review of Contracts:** The Parties acknowledge that the Consultant has presented to the Authority the certification entitled "Contractor Certification Requirement" required pursuant to FOMB's

Policy, signed by the Chief Executive Officer of the Consultant (or other officer with equivalent position or authority to issue such certifications). A copy of the signed "Contractor Certification Requirement" is included herein as an appendix to this Agreement. The Consultant represents and warrants that the information included in the "Contractor Certification Requirement", is complete, accurate and correct, and that any misrepresentation, inaccuracy or falseness in such certification will render this Agreement null and void and the Consultant will have the obligation to reimburse immediately to the Authority any amounts, payments or benefits received hereunder.

- JES
- P. **Consequences of Non-Compliance:** The Consultant expressly agrees that the conditions outlined throughout this THIRTEENTH Clause are essential requirements of this Agreement. Consequently, should any one of these representations, warranties, and certifications be incorrect, inaccurate or misleading, in whole or in part, there shall be sufficient cause for the Authority to render this Agreement null and void and to require that the Consultant reimburse to the Authority all moneys received under this Agreement.

The Consultant accepts and acknowledges its responsibility for requiring and obtaining a similar warranties and certifications required under this Clause from each and every approved subcontractor whose service the Consultant has

secured in connection with the Services and shall forward such evidence to the Authority as to its compliance with this requirement.

For purposes of this Agreement, a “subcontractor” is any person engaged by the Consultant in accordance with the conditions herein established who dedicates twenty-five percent (25%) or more of its time over a calendar year to provide Services related to this Agreement. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the Consultant shall have the right to rely conclusively on the certifications issued by the corresponding government agencies in making the representations in this Clause.

JES  
For the purposes of this Agreement, ‘tax debt’ shall mean any debt that the Consultant may have with the Government of Puerto Rico for income taxes, real or personal property taxes, including any special taxes levied, license rights, tax withholdings for payment of salaries and professional services, taxes for payment of interest, dividends and income to individuals, corporations and non-resident accounting firms, unemployment insurance premiums, workers’ compensation payments, Social Security for chauffeurs, and ASUME.

**FOURTEENTH - INSURANCE:** The Consultant represents that as of the date of execution of this Agreement, it maintains Professional Liability insurance coverage for errors, omissions and negligent acts that may arise from the Services rendered under this Agreement in the minimum amount of Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000.00).



The Consultant also represents that as of the date of execution of this Agreement, it maintains Commercial General Liability insurance in the minimum amount of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00).

With respect to the Commercial General Liability insurance policy, the certification to be provided by the Consultant must identify the Authority as Additional Insured and provide Hold Harmless Agreement Clause. Also, the certificates should include the following cancellation notice:

“CANCELLATION CLAUSE: It is understood and agreed that in the event of cancellation of this policy at the request of the insurance company, thirty (30) days written notice shall be given to the above mentioned additional insured, **PUERTO RICO FISCAL AGENCY AND FINANCIAL ADVISORY AUTHORITY**. However, it is agreed that if cancellation is due to non-payment of premium, ten (10) days written notice will be given”.

It shall be the Consultant's obligation to submit to the Authority the corresponding certifications from its insurance company evidencing the abovementioned Professional Liability and Commercial General Liability insurance coverage as required in this Clause. The insurance policies required herein must remain in effect during the term of this Agreement, including any amendments to extend said term.

**FIFTEENTH - LIABILITY FOR LOSSES OF THE AUTHORITY:** If the Authority suffers any damages, losses, liabilities, and expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses) (collectively, a "Loss" or "Losses") (regardless of whether such Loss is based on breach of contract, tort, strict

liability, breach of warranties, failure of essential purpose, statutory liability or otherwise) as a result of Consultant's breach of its obligations hereunder, the Consultant shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the Authority and any entity of the Executive Branch from and against such Losses. If the Consultant incurs any costs or expenses as a result of a subpoena or request for production of documents or request to testify in connection with the Services provided pursuant to this Agreement, the Authority shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the Consultant from and against such costs or expenses.

JES  
In no event will either Party be liable to the other Party for incidental, consequential, special, or punitive damages (including loss of profits, data, business or goodwill, or government fines, penalties, taxes, or filing fees), regardless of whether such liability is based on breach of contract, tort, strict liability, breach of warranty, failure of essential purpose, statutory liability or otherwise, and even if advised of the likelihood of such damages. The Consultant hereby agrees to use reasonable efforts to mitigate any and all damages and other Losses to the Authority and any entity of the Executive Branch. To the extent permitted by law, all claims and Losses relating to, directly or indirectly, or arising from this Agreement (including the Services), however caused, regardless of the form of action and on any theory of liability, including contract, strict liability, negligence or other tort, shall be brought under and shall be subject to the terms of this Agreement.

**SIXTEENTH - INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE AUTHORITY:** The Authority will submit to Consultant all information in Authority's control necessary for Consultant to perform the Services covered by this Agreement. The Authority is responsible for the accuracy and completeness of the information submitted to the Consultant in order to perform the Services and agrees to notify the Consultant, as soon as possible, of any problems or errors in such information that the Authority becomes aware of.

**SEVENTEENTH - CONSULTANT NOT ENTITLED TO RIGHTS:** The execution of this Agreement shall not generate any rights for the Consultant, its employees, officers, directors, agents, successors, assignees or subcontractors to receive any benefits that the officers or employees of the Authority, the Government of Puerto Rico or of any agency, instrumentality or municipality may be entitled as officers or employees of the Authority and the Government of Puerto Rico pursuant to law or regulation including, but not limited to, vacation and sick leave, workmen's compensation, or any other such benefits.

**EIGHTEENTH - WAIVERS:** The Consultant certifies that it is not required to obtain a waiver from any Puerto Rico government entity prior to or in connection with the execution of this Agreement or that, to the extent any such waiver is required, the same has been obtained by the Consultant prior to the execution of this Agreement.

**NINETEENTH - SEVERABILITY:** Both Parties agree that the illegality of any of the provisions of this Agreement shall not invalidate it as a whole. In such

case, if any clause or condition of this Agreement is declared null and void by a competent court of law, the remaining parts of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

**TWENTIETH - GOVERNING LAW AND VENUE:** This Agreement and any dispute relating to the Services will be governed by and construed, interpreted and enforced in accordance with the laws of Puerto Rico. The court and authorities of Puerto Rico shall have exclusive jurisdiction over all controversies that may arise with respect to this Agreement. The Parties hereby waive any other venue to which they might be entitled by virtue of domicile or otherwise. Should either Party initiate or bring suit or action before any other court, it is agreed that upon application, any such suit or action shall be dismissed, without prejudice, and may be filed in accordance with this provision. The Party bringing the suit or action before a court not agreed to herein shall pay to the other Party all the costs of seeking dismissal including reasonable attorney's fees.


**TWENTY-FIRST - SOLE AGREEMENT:** It is understood that this Agreement is the sole agreement between the Parties with regard to the Services covered hereby and supersedes any prior agreements, written or verbal. The Agreement may not be changed orally, but may be amended in writing by mutual agreement of the Parties.

**TWENTY-SECOND - COUNTERPARTS:** This Agreement may be executed in multiple counterparts, each of which shall be deemed to be an original instrument, but all of which taken together shall constitute one instrument.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto set their hands in San Juan,

Puerto Rico, as of this 30 day of July, 2021.

**PUERTO RICO FISCAL  
AGENCY AND FINANCIAL  
ADVISORY AUTHORITY**



Guillermo Camba Casas  
Director of the Office of  
Administrative Affairs

**PIETRANTONI MÉNDEZ &  
ÁLVAREZ LLC**



Jaime E. Santos Mimoso  
Managing Member  
**Tax Id. Number:**

Popular Center 19<sup>th</sup> Floor  
208 Ponce de León Ave.  
San Juan, Puerto Rico 00918  
Tel.: (787) 274-1212  
Fax: (787) 274-1470

## APPENDIX INDEX

1. Service Description/Proposal
2. Consultant's hourly rates
3. AAFAF billing guidelines for outside counsel
4. Consultant's Approved Persons for Travel
5. Contractor Certification Requirement

JES

**PMA** PIETRANTONI MENDEZ  
& ALVAREZ LLC

JAIME E. SANTOS  
MEMBER

JSANTOS@PMALAW.COM  
DIR: (787) 274-4902  
FAX: (787) 274-1470

June 7, 2021

Puerto Rico Fiscal and Financial Advisory Authority  
Roberto Sánchez Vilella Government Center  
De Diego St., Stop 22  
San Juan, Puerto Rico 00940-1089

Attention: Carlos Saavedra, Esq.

Re: Pietrantoní Méndez & Alvarez LLC Legal Services Agreement

Ladies and Gentlemen:

JES  
Our agreement to provide legal services to Puerto Rico Fiscal and Financial Advisory Authority ("PRFAFAA") expires on June 30, 2021 and we propose to renew the agreement for Fiscal Year 2022 with a 15% discount of our standard hourly rates. Our Firm has been providing legal services to PRFAFAA since 2016 and to the previous fiscal agent, Government Development Bank for Puerto Rico, since the Firm's founding in 1992.

All our attorneys, paralegals and legal assistants are committed to provide top quality, timely, cost-effective and personalized legal services to PRFAFAA. Attached hereto is our Firm Profile, which contains a brief description of our Firm, our experience, practice areas and our people.

We are proud to represent PRFAFAA and it would be an honor to continue to do so. If you have any questions regarding our Firm or our services, please contact me.

Sincerely,



Attachment

# PIETRANTONI MENDEZ & ALVAREZ LLC

POPULAR CENTER 19TH FLOOR  
208 PONCE DE LEON AVENUE  
SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO 00918

TEL: (787) 274-1212  
FAX: (787) 274-1470  
WWW.PMALAW.COM

## FIRM PROFILE

**Pietrantonni Mendez & Alvarez LLC** was founded in 1992 to render top quality, timely, cost-effective and personalized legal services. The Firm's attorneys pride themselves in taking the time to understand their clients' business goals and provide practical legal solutions to achieve these goals.

The Firm has a diverse clientele representing a wide cross-section of private corporations, public entities, individuals and foundations engaged in areas such as financial services, telecommunications, insurance, oil and petrochemical products, retail and wholesale trade, construction, education, government and manufacturing. The Firm enjoys a close working relationship with many leading law firms in the United States and foreign countries.

Currently with 55 lawyers and offices in San Juan, Puerto Rico, Pietrantonni Mendez & Alvarez LLC is active in virtually every major area of commercial law. We are an integrated firm organized to allow focused attention to a full range of legal issues. The Firm is organized into four groups: Corporate, Taxes, Litigation and Labor. In addition, the Firm provides services in specialized practice areas, which include administrative law, antitrust, asset-based finance, bankruptcy and creditor's rights, civil and commercial litigation, commercial banking and financial services, commercial lending, corporate and public finance, distribution and franchising, employee benefits, environmental law and litigation, federal and local taxation, governmental affairs, insurance and health law, product liability litigation, intellectual property, investment companies, labor and employment, mergers and acquisitions, privatization, real estate development and financing, securities and capital markets regulation, telecommunications, and zoning law and litigation. For additional information, please visit our website at [www.pmalaw.com](http://www.pmalaw.com).



**MAJOR PRACTICE AREAS**

**ANTITRUST**

The Firm provides advice and litigation services in antitrust and trade regulation matters to a wide variety of clients from industries such as the food, financial services, energy, health care, and insurance industries. We are involved with leading antitrust cases in Puerto Rico, in both Federal and State Courts and represent clients before the Federal Trade Commission and the Puerto Rico Justice Department's Antitrust Division in relation with the regulatory review of mergers and acquisitions, as well as in defending or prosecuting complaints for a wide variety of unfair trade practices. Our attorneys have vast experience in dealing with the application of federal and local antitrust standards to the unique characteristics of our economy.

**ASSET-BASED FINANCE**

7ES The Firm was an active participant in the development of collateralized mortgage obligations and asset-backed securities markets in Puerto Rico. We obtained many of the tax rulings that were required to develop these products and have represented the largest issuers of collateralized mortgage obligations in Puerto Rico. The Firm has represented issuers and underwriters in the issuance and sale of securitized interests in automobile loans and leases, real estate taxes, and other assets and of residential mortgage pass-through securities and collateralized mortgage obligations.

**BANKING AND FINANCIAL SERVICES**

The Firm actively represents financial institutions, banks, and bank holding companies doing business in Puerto Rico. Our attorneys have experience on such matters as acquisitions of financial institutions and obtaining de novo charters. We have particular expertise in the application of federal laws and regulations, such as Regulation K, to Puerto Rico financial institutions. As part of our commercial banking practice, we advise lenders and borrowers on loans and structured financing and have represented local, United States and foreign financial institutions in complex lending transactions, including leveraged buyouts, syndicated loans, and multi-borrower credit facilities.

**BANKRUPTCY**

The Firm provides advice with respect to solvency and bankruptcy issues arising in connection with commercial and financial transactions and is also involved in out-of-court workouts and bankruptcy litigation. The focus of our bankruptcy practice has been in representing creditors, both secured and unsecured. We also represent parties interested in acquiring assets from insolvent or bankrupt entities.

**DEALER AND DISTRIBUTION**

The Firm counsels' clients, namely stateside, international and local manufacturing companies, in all aspects of the distribution and sales representative relationship, from the drafting and review of distribution and sales representative agreements and compliance with local statutes, to the termination of the relationship and, if necessary, litigation. Our attorneys are amongst the most experienced in Puerto Rico dealing with the unique local dealers' and sales representatives' termination statutes.

**ENERGY**

363 PMA is one of the leading and most experienced firms in Puerto Rico representing clients involved in the development of alternative and renewable energy projects in Puerto Rico. In addition, it has a well-established power and oil and gas practice. PMA has also been actively involved in LNG and cogeneration projects on the Island, as well as electric power generating projects, regularly representing power producers.

The Firm's well-established commercial lending, environmental, privatizations, real estate, taxation, regulatory and zoning and land use practices permits us to provide added value in addressing the intricacies and challenges involved in the development of energy projects. Our attorneys have advised a broad spectrum of projects, including, transportation and marketing of petroleum products; oil, gas and product pipelines, terminals and storage facilities; LNG facilities; petrochemical plants; demand-side management programs, solar power plants, waste-to-energy facilities, hydro-power projects, and wind projects, among others. We draw upon this experience to provide the quality of transactional and regulatory services expected by energy industry participants.

**ENVIRONMENTAL**

The Firm counsels' clients on compliance, regulatory and permitting matters under Puerto Rico and federal environmental laws, and environmental issues arising in real estate developments, manufacturing, service and food retail operations, and commercial transactions, including mergers and acquisitions, real estate transfers, and financing transactions. The Firm also represents clients in all phases of administrative and civil litigation pertaining to Puerto Rico and federal environmental laws and in matters related to environmental legislative and rulemaking affairs. Attorneys of the Firm have represented industries and commercial entities before the major Puerto Rico and federal environmental agencies, including the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the Puerto Rico Environmental Quality Board, the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources and the Puerto Rico Aqueduct and Sewer Authority, in connection with a broad variety of environmental matters, including water, air, hazardous waste and Superfund issues.

**GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS**

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The Firm counsels' clients in governmental affairs, providing services with emphasis on public finance, banking, securities regulation, environmental law, privatization, employee benefits, taxes, zoning, and labor and employment law issues. We provide clients with information regarding current legislative and regulatory issues, advice regarding political strategy, and lobbying in a wide variety of legislative, administrative and regulatory matters.

**INSURANCE AND HEALTH LAW**

The Firm has extensive experience in dealing with corporate, regulatory and liability issues facing insurers, hospitals and HMOs. The Firm is counsel to major participants in the Puerto Rico Health Reform and to various clients engaged in the hospital and health care management business. Our attorneys have represented these clients in matters before the Insurance Commissioner and in malpractice suits. The Firm also provides advice to its banking clients with respect to permitted insurance activities.

**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

The Firm counsels' clients on a wide variety of local and federal copyright and trademark law matters. We represent leading industries in connection with intellectual property disputes, including trademark and copyright infringement matters, and assist national, local and foreign business entities in obtaining, preserving and protecting intellectual property rights for new or existing products and services in Puerto Rico. The Firm's attorneys have represented clients in federal and local courts and before the local trademark registration office in these areas, and have assisted clients in implementing anti-infringement campaigns through supervision of investigative work and offering of seminars. The Firm also works with clients to plan and carry out seizures of illegal copies of protected products.

**INVESTMENT COMPANIES**

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The Firm has been one of the leading legal advisers to the Puerto Rico investment company industry. Currently, the Firm is counsel to various family of funds. In addition, the Firm counsel's private investment companies employing various investment strategies, including venture capital. Our attorneys in this practice area also deal with all aspects of the investment management and investment advisory business, including management and advisory contracts and compliance with Puerto Rico and Federal laws regulating investment advisers.

**LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT**

The Firm represents employers in all aspects of the employment relationship. Our labor attorneys have extensive experience in union campaigns, collective bargaining, arbitrations, and National Labor Relations Board practice. We also provide advice in general employment matters, wage and hour claims, including class actions, and local labor regulations. Our management advice and counseling focuses on preventive practices to help employers achieve compliance and reduce litigation risks. Our employment litigation practice consists primarily of representing corporate clients in actions for wrongful discharge, discrimination on all counts, sexual harassment, wage and hour, and workers' compensation.

**LITIGATION**

The Firm actively represents its clients in all areas of civil and commercial litigation in local and federal courts, including the United States District Court for the District of Puerto Rico, the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, the United States Supreme Court, the Federal Court of Appeals, the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Puerto Rico, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico's Court of First Instance, Court of Appeals and Supreme Court. We also provide services in administrative litigation before Puerto Rico and federal agencies, including the Commissioner of Financial Institutions of Puerto Rico, the United States Patent and Trademark Office, the Puerto Rico State Department's Trademark Office, the Antitrust Division of the Puerto Rico Department of Justice, the United States Federal Trade Commission, the Puerto Rico Department of Consumer Affairs, the Puerto Rico Public Service Bureau, the Puerto Rico Telecommunications Bureau, the Puerto Rico Health Department, the Puerto Rico Environmental Quality Board, United States Environmental Protection Agency, the Puerto Rico Planning Board, and the Puerto Rico Regulations and Permits Administration, among others. We also represent clients in arbitration proceedings, mediation, conciliations, governmental investigations and pre-litigation negotiations.

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The Firm's litigation practice covers virtually every business-related issue encountered by our clients, including antitrust, banking and lender's liability, bankruptcy and creditor's rights, construction law, distribution and franchising, employment and ERISA, environmental, health care and medical malpractice, intellectual property, permits, product liability, securities, telecommunications, torts, trade regulation, and zoning matters. Our attorneys also provide litigation avoidance and compliance counseling in all practice areas.

**MERGERS AND ACQUISITIONS**

The Firm offers legal counseling with respect to the acquisition and disposition of businesses and related corporate restructuring. While our work is concentrated in Puerto Rico, we have also handled important assignments in the Caribbean and Latin America.

**PRIVATIZATIONS**

Our attorneys have extensive experience in the privatization of government-owned enterprises. The Firm represented the Government Development Bank for Puerto Rico in the privatization of the Puerto Rico Telephone Company. We have also participated in the financing and structuring of the only private toll road project in Puerto Rico, as well as in the privatization of prison management and bus transportation.

**PUBLIC FINANCE**

The Firm's public finance practice covers virtually every type of municipal security, including: derivative financial instruments and other new products, general obligation bonds, health care, industrial development, solid waste, public power bonds, hotel financing, single-family and multi-family low-income housing, special tax and assessment infrastructure bonds, student loans, higher education and other non-profit financing and transportation bonds. Our Firm represents issuers, underwriters, credit enhancers and trustees in public finance transactions. We also regularly act as bond counsel.

**REAL ESTATE**

3ES  
The Firm's real estate practice includes the full range of real estate issues faced in connection with real estate development projects in Puerto Rico, including, residential projects and buildings, office buildings, commercial shopping centers, hotels, and industrial projects. The Firm provides real estate counseling and assistance to developers, lenders and investment clients, as well as the Firm's general corporate and other clients. Our real estate attorneys have extensive experience in areas such as construction and permanent financing, conveyance, land use and entitlement, leasing, loan workouts, options, and public and private mortgage financing.

**SECURITIES AND CAPITAL MARKETS**

The Firm is a leading adviser in all aspects of capital markets structure, products and transactions in Puerto Rico. We represent major United States and Puerto Rico investment banking firms and securities brokers and dealers, investment companies, corporations and others, on corporate and other matters with respect to the issuance, sale and trading of securities, including the federal and local securities and banking laws and the rules of the various securities and other regulatory bodies. As one of the few firms in Puerto Rico with substantial SEC

**PIETRANTONI MENDEZ & ALVAREZ LLC**

experience, the Firm advises several publicly held corporations in matters under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and our securities broker-dealer clients with respect to regulatory and compliance issues. We also provide legal advice to the Puerto Rico Securities Industry Association and other business associations in the securities area.

The Firm has acted as lead counsel to various issuers of debt and equity securities in the United States and Puerto Rico markets. These offerings have included registered public offerings under the Securities Act of 1933, private placements and intrastate offerings.

**TAX, EMPLOYEE BENEFITS, TRUSTS AND ESTATES**

DES The Firm provides assistance to corporations, financial institutions, government entities, individuals and other clients in all areas of Puerto Rico and federal tax, estate, trust and employee benefits laws and regulations. Our tax attorneys plan, structure, negotiate and implement numerous forms of business transactions, acquisitions, combinations, reorganizations, and financing for clients. We advise corporations, financial institutions and government entities on public and private offerings of various types of debt and equity instruments, including asset-based debt or pass-through offerings such as mortgage backed securities and auto loans. We also advise individuals in connection with business and personal transactions.

The Firm counsels corporate and individual clients on employee benefits, ERISA and executive compensation matters, including tax qualified and non-qualified pension and profit sharing plans, ESOPs, stock option plans, welfare benefit plans, as well as matters arising under Puerto Rico and federal securities laws and related laws.

The Firm's attorneys also provide counseling in all aspects of estate planning and the administration of trusts and estates. Our attorneys have extensive experience in the complex Puerto Rico estate laws and the Puerto Rico and federal estate tax laws governing the transfer of assets.

ZONING

The Firm counsels' clients in compliance, regulatory and permitting matters under Puerto Rico zoning laws and special zoning regulations. The Firm also represents clients in all phases of administrative and civil litigation pertaining to Puerto Rico zoning laws and regulations and in matters related to legislative and rulemaking affairs. Firm attorneys regularly appear before the Puerto Rico Planning Board, the Puerto Rico Administration of Regulations and Permits, and the Puerto Rico Department of Transportation and Public Works, and other government and municipal entities, in connection with a broad variety of zoning and permitting issues faced by our clients in relation to the development of telecommunications, residential, and industrial projects and with respect to the assessment of impact fees.

JES



## Representative Clients

- Abarca Health LLC
- AbbVie, Inc.
- Acrecent Financial Corporation
- Adidas Latin America, S.A.
- American Paper Corporation
- AT&T Mobility
- Banco Cooperativo de Puerto Rico
- Banco Popular de Puerto Rico
- Banco Santander de Puerto Rico
- Bank of America
- BBP Partners, LLC
- Best Buy
- Caribbean Refrescos, Inc.
- Caribbean Restaurants LLC (Burger King)
- CCl Limited Partnership (Coca Cola Puerto Rico Bottlers)
- Cementos Argos
- Centro Médico Del Turabo (Hima San Pablo)
- Citibank, N.A.
- Claro Puerto Rico
- Clinical Medical Service
- Crown Castle PR LLC
- CVS Puerto Rico
- Dorado Health, Inc.
- Ecolab Manufacturing, Inc.
- ECWASTE
- Empire Gas Co., Inc.
- Family Financial
- First Puerto Rico Funds
- Firstbank Puerto Rico
- Goldman Sachs & Co.
- Grupo Ferré Rangel
- Grupo Punta Cana
- Hewlett-Packard Enterprise Company
- Home Depot Puerto Rico
- Humana Health Plans of Puerto Rico, Inc.
- Inspectorate America Corporation
- Major League Baseball
- MAPFRE
- Mayagüez Medical Center-Dr. Ramón E Betances
- Merrill Lynch
- National Stores, Inc.
- Oriental Bank
- Oxford Advisors, Inc.
- Parliament Capital Management, Inc.
- Payless Shoesource
- Paulson & Co., Inc.
- Popular Securities LLC
- Popular, Inc.
- Puerto Rico Coffee Roasters
- Puerto Rico Fiscal Agency And Financial Advisory Authority
- Puerto Rico Ports Authority
- Puerto Rico Science, Technology & Research Trust
- Putnam Bridge Funding, LLC
- Sandisk Corporation
- Santander Asset Management Corporation
- Santander Securities LLC
- SAP
- SBA Communications Corp.
- Seritage Growth Properties
- Service Corporation International
- Sonnedix Solar PR, LLC
- The Sembler Company
- Total Petroleum Puerto Rico Corp.
- Tower Acquisition Group LLC
- Triple-S Management Corporation
- Toyota De Puerto Rico
- Wyndham Worldwide Corporation

JES

ATTORNEY PROFILES

MEMBERS

DONALD E. HULL

Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico (1953). Bar Admissions: 1979, Puerto Rico; 1986, District of Columbia. Education: Brown University (A.B., 1975); Georgetown University (J.D., 1979). With McConnell Valdés, San Juan, 1979-1998, Partner 1984-1998; Chairman, Corporate Department (1998); Chairman, Financial Institutions Practice Group (1993-1998). Author: "In Brief: Legislative and Financial Developments-Puerto Rico", Latin Law, September 1996. Member: Puerto Rico, District of Columbia and American Bar Associations. **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Corporate and Commercial Law; Commercial and Real Estate Lending; Real Estate Law; Mergers and Acquisitions.

JORGE I. PEIRATS

JES  
Born in Santiago, Cuba (1958). Bar Admissions: 1983, Puerto Rico; 1984, U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico and U.S. Court of Appeals, First Circuit; 1988, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. Education: University of Notre Dame (B.A., *Magna Cum Laude*, 1980); Boston College (J.D., 1983). Phi Beta Kappa. With U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico, Law Clerk, Judge Gilberto Gierbolini, 1983-1984; O'Neill & Borges, San Juan, 1984-1993, Partner, 1988-1993. Adjunct Professor and Lecturer, University of Puerto Rico Law School. Member: Puerto Rico Bar Association. **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Civil and Commercial Litigation, including Securities, Employment, Bankruptcy, Trademark, Environmental, Antitrust and Administrative Law.

ANTONIO J. SANTOS-PRATS

Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico (1961). Bar Admissions: 1985, Massachusetts; 1986, Puerto Rico; 1987, U.S. Court of Appeals, First Circuit; 1988, District of Columbia. Education: Fairfield University (B.A., 1982); Boston College (J.D., 1985). Adjunct Professor and Lecturer, University of Puerto Rico School of Law, 1988 to 1991. With U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, Washington, D.C., 1985-1987; and McConnell Valdés, San Juan, 1987-1992, Partner, 1991-1992. Member: Puerto Rico, Massachusetts, District of Columbia and American Bar Associations. **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Corporate and Commercial Law; Corporate and Public Finance Law; Commercial and Real Estate Lending; Real Estate Law; Mergers and Acquisitions.

**JAIME E. SANTOS**

Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico (1963). Bar Admission: 1989, Puerto Rico. Education: University of Pennsylvania (B.A., 1985); University of Puerto Rico School of Law (J.D., *Magna Cum Laude*, 1988); Georgetown University Law Center (LL.M. in Securities Regulation, 1989). With McConnell Valdés, 1989-1994, Partner 1993-1994. Adjunct Professor and Lecturer, University of Puerto Rico Law School, 1996 to 1998. Member: Puerto Rico and American Bar Associations. **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Corporate and Public Finance; Banking and Financial Services; Asset-Based Finance; Corporate and Commercial Law; Mergers and Acquisitions.

**EDUARDO J. ARIAS**

Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico (1968). Bar Admission: 1994, Puerto Rico. Education: Yale University (B.A., *Cum Laude*, 1990); Stanford University (J.D., 1993). Associate Editor, Stanford Law Review, 1992-93. Member: Puerto Rico Bar Association. **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Corporate and Public Finance; Corporate and Commercial Law; Mergers and Acquisitions; Commercial Lending; Securities and Capital Markets.

**IVÁN G. MARRERO**

JES

Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico (1971). Bar Admissions: 1997, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; 1998, Florida and District of Columbia. Education: University of Maryland (B.B.A., *Cum Laude* 1993) Economics; University of Puerto Rico (J.D., *Cum Laude*, 1996); New York University School of Law (LL.M., Corporate Law, 1996). Has been recognized as a Leader in the Corporate Law Field by the Chambers & Partners Global Guide and the Chambers & Partners Latin America Guide, also advises and represents clients on trademark law matters before the Puerto Rico Trademark Office. He published "Trademark Law Interpretations in Puerto Rico," Inside the Minds: Common Issues in IP Law, Aspatore Books, a Thompson business (July 2008) and "Puerto Rico Enacts New Trademark Law," International Trademark Association (INTA) Bulletin Vol. 65, No.6 (March 15, 2010). **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Capital Market, Banking, Public Finance, Intellectual Property and Corporate Law.

**EDGAR RÍOS-MÉNDEZ**

Born in Canal Zone, Panamá (1971). Bar Admissions: 1998, Puerto Rico; 1999, U.S. Court of Appeals, First Circuit. Education: Xavier University (B.B.A., *Cum Laude*, 1993); University of Puerto Rico School of Law (J.D., *Magna Cum Laude*, 1997); New York University (LL.M. in Taxation, 1999), University of Puerto Rico Law Review, 1995-1997. Author: "Valoración de las Acciones de la Corporación Profesional", 66 Rev. Jur. U.P.R. 305 (1997). Certified Public Accountant, Puerto Rico, 1994. Member: Puerto Rico Society of Certified Public Accountants. **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Federal and Puerto Rico Tax Law.

**ORESTE R. RAMOS**

Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico (1972). Bar Admissions: 1999, Puerto Rico; 1999, U.S. Court of Appeals, First Circuit; 2000, U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico. Education: University of Pennsylvania (B.A., 1995); University of Pennsylvania (J.D., 1998). With United States District Court for the District of Puerto Rico, Law Clerk, Judge Jaime Pieras, Jr., 1998-2000. Member: Puerto Rico Bar Association, Federal Bar Association (Treasurer), American Bar Association and Defense Research Institute. **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Civil and Commercial Litigation, including Dealer and Distribution, Intellectual Property, Employment Litigation and Securities Litigation.

**HERMAN G. COLBERG-GUERRA**

Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico (1971). Bar Admissions: 1997, Puerto Rico; 1997, U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico. Education: Clark University (B.B.A., 1993); University of Puerto Rico School of Law (J.D., 1996). Member: University of Puerto Rico Law Review, 1995-1996. Member: Puerto Rico Bar Association, Federal Bar Association. **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Civil and Commercial Litigation, including Antitrust and Employment Litigation.

**ANTONIO R. MOLINA-MACHARGO**

Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico (1974). Bar Admission: 1999, Puerto Rico. Education: Boston College (B.A., 1996); University of Puerto Rico School of Law (J.D. 1999). Member: Puerto Rico Bar Association. **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Corporate and Commercial Law; Commercial and Real Estate Lending.

**KARINA Y. CAMACHO-OJEDA**

Born in Ponce, Puerto Rico (1978). Bar Admissions: Puerto Rico (2012); New York (2006); New Jersey (2005). Education: University of Puerto Rico (B.S., *Magna Cum Laude*); Howard University School of Law (J.D., *Cum Laude*, 2005); Memberships: American Bar Association, New York Bar Association. **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Corporate Finance, Securities; Cross-Border Mergers and Acquisitions, Secured Transactions and General Corporate Matters.

**DIEGO MURGIA DÍAZ**

Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico (1980). Bar Admissions: Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico and U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit. Education: Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA (2010 LL.M.), University of Puerto Rico Law School, San Juan, P.R. (2007 J.D., *Magna Cum Laude*); University of Barcelona School of Law, Barcelona, Spain (2007 L.L.B.), University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras, P.R. (2003 B.A., *Magna Cum Laude*); Memberships: American Bar Association, Puerto Rico Bar Association. **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Civil and Commercial Litigation and Arbitration.

**DIANETTE M. RIVERA-MELÉNDEZ**

Born in Caguas, Puerto Rico (1983). Bar Admission: Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (2009). Education: New York University (LLM in Taxation, 2014), University of Puerto Rico, School of Law (J.D., *Summa Cum Laude*, 2009); University of Puerto Rico (B.A. in Accounting and Finance, *Summa Cum Laude*, 2005); University of Massachusetts at Amherst, Amherst (MA, 2003-2004), exchange program. Puerto Rico Society of Certified Public Accountants. **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Federal and Puerto Rico Tax Law.

JES

**EDWIN R. CRUZ**

Born in Trenton, New Jersey (1970). Bar Admissions: 1998, Puerto Rico; 2000, U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico and U.S. Court of Appeals, First Circuit; 2002, registered to practice before U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in patent cases. Education: Georgia Institute of Technology (B.S. Ch.E., *Cum Laude*, 1992); Tulane School of Law (J.D. with Certificate in Environmental Law, *Cum Laude*, 1997). With Amoco Production Company, Offshore Business Unit, New Orleans, LA, Operations Engineer; McConnell Valdés Partner, 2003-2004. Engineer-in-Training License, Louisiana, 1994. Member: Puerto Rico Bar Association; Louisiana Professional Engineering and Land Surveying Board. **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Environmental and Land Use Law; Energy; Zoning; Patent Law.

**MANUEL RODRÍGUEZ-BOISSÉN**

Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico (1977). Bar Admission: 2003, Puerto Rico. Education: Harvard University (A.B., *Magna Cum Laude*, 1999); New York University School of Law (J.D., 2002). New York University Dean's Scholarship (1999-2002). Book Review Editor, New York University Journal of International Law and Politics, 2001-2002. Member: Puerto Rico Bar Association. **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Corporate and Commercial Law; Corporate and Public Finance; Investment Companies.

**MANUEL E. DEL VALLE-REXACH**

3ES  
Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico (1978). Bar Admission: 2004, Puerto Rico. Education: Northwestern University (B.A., 2000); The George Washington Law School (J.D., 2003). **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Corporate and Commercial Law; Corporate and Public Finance Law; Mergers and Acquisitions; Real Estate Law; Energy; Commercial and Real Estate Lending; Dealer and Distribution.

**MARÍA DOLORES TRELLES-HERNÁNDEZ**

Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico (1979). Bar Admissions: Puerto Rico (2005); U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico and U.S. Court of Appeals, First Circuit (2008). Education: The George Washington University (B.A., *Summa Cum Laude*, 2001); University of Puerto Rico, School of Law (J.D., *Magna Cum Laude*, 2004). Member of the University of Puerto Rico Law Review 2002-2003; Associate Director, Board of Editors, 2003-2004. Past Employment: Law Clerk to the Hon. Federico Hernández Denton, Chief Justice, P.R. Supreme Court (2004-2005). Law Clerk to Senior U.S. District Judge Salvador E. Casellas, U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico (2005-2007). Member: Puerto Rico Bar Association. **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Civil and Commercial Litigation.

LIMITED MEMBERS

**JORGE E. SOUSS**

Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico (1972). Bar Admission: 1997, Puerto Rico. Education: Georgetown University, Washington, DC (B.S., 1994); Yale Law School (J.D., 1997). **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Corporate and Commercial Law; Investment Company Law.

**MELVIN J. RIVERA-MÉNDEZ**

Born in Mayagüez, Puerto Rico (1971). Bar Admissions: 1997, Puerto Rico and United States District Court for the District of Puerto Rico; 2002, U.S. Tax Court; 2003, Court of Appeals, First Circuit. Education: University of Puerto Rico - Mayaguez Campus (B.B.A., *Magna Cum Laude*, 1993); University of Puerto Rico School of Law (J.D., *Cum Laude*, 1996). Member: University of Puerto Rico Law Review 1995-1996. Certified Public Accountant, Puerto Rico, 1994. Member: Puerto Rico Society of Certified Public Accountants and Puerto Rico Bar Association. **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Federal and Puerto Rico Tax Law.

DES

**SARA LYDIA VÉLEZ-SANTIAGO**

Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico (1977). Bar Admission: 2005, Puerto Rico. Education: University of Puerto Rico School of Law (J.D., 2004); University of Puerto Rico (B.B.A., *Magna Cum Laude*, 1999). Member: Puerto Rico Bar Association. **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Civil and Commercial Litigation.

**JASON R. AGUILÓ-SURO**

Born in Dayton, Ohio (1983). Bar Admission: 2008, Puerto Rico. Education: University of Michigan, Stephen M. Ross School of Business Ann Arbor, MI (B.B.A., 2005); University of Michigan Law School (J.D. 2008). **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Litigation and Arbitration.

**AMANDA BILLOCH VÁZQUEZ**

Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico (1988). Bar Admission: Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (2013). Education: University of Puerto Rico, School of Law (J.D., *Magna Cum Laude*, 2013), Tufts University, Medford, Massachusetts (B.A., 2010); Memberships: Puerto Rico Bar Association. **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Corporate and Commercial Law, Public Finance Law, Government Affairs.

**FRANCES R. PESQUERA RIVERA**

Born in Ithaca, New York (1985). Bar Admissions: Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (2013); U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico (2013). Education: University of Puerto Rico, School of Law (J.D., *Magna Cum Laude*, 2012); Yale University (B.S., 2007); Memberships: Puerto Rico Bar Association. **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Litigation.

**PRISCILA M. RAMÍREZ**

XES Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico (1988). Bar Admission: Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (2014). Education: Bentley University (B.A., *Magna Cum Laude*, 2010); Interamerican University of Puerto Rico, School of Law (J.D., *Summa Cum Laude*, 2013). Practice: O'Neill & Borges LLC, San Juan, 2013-2019; Member Puerto Rico and American Bar Associations. **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Corporate and Commercial Law; Commercial Finance Law; Real Estate Law.

**ARTURO L.B. HERNÁNDEZ-GONZÁLEZ**

Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico (1988). Bar Admission: 2015 Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; 2016 U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico. Education: University of Puerto Rico, School of Law (J.D., *Summa cum Laude*, 2014); University of Puerto Rico (B.A., European History, 2010). **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Commercial Litigation.



COUNSEL

**MANUEL R. PIETRANTONI**

Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico (1950). Bar Admissions: 1974, Puerto Rico and U.S. Tax Court; 1975, New York; 1979, Florida. Education: Columbia University (B.A., 1970; J.D., 1973; M.B.A. 1974), Phi Delta Phi. With Sullivan and Cromwell, New York City, 1974-1976; O'Neill & Borges, San Juan, 1976-1986, Partner 1977-1986; McConnell Valdés, San Juan, 1986-1992, Partner, Chairman of the Corporate Department and of the Corporate and Public Finance Practice Group. Author: "Puerto Rico as an Offshore Banking Center; A Discussion of the Puerto Rico International Banking Center Regulatory Act," 15 International Lawyer 657, 1981. Chairman, Tax Committee, 1982-1985 and Member, Board of Directors, 1985-1988, Puerto Rico Manufacturers Association; Member, Advisory Committee of the Secretary of the Treasury, 1985-1987. Member, Chamber of Commerce and Puerto Rico Manufacturers Association Strategic Planning Council, 1988--. Member: The Florida Bar; The Bar Association of the City of New York; Puerto Rico, New York and American Bar Associations (Member, Sections of Business Law and Taxation). **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Corporate and Public Finance Law; Corporate, Tax and Commercial Law.

3ES  
**NÉSTOR M. MÉNDEZ-GÓMEZ**

Born in New York, New York (1948). Bar Admissions: 1974, Puerto Rico, U.S. District Court, for the District of Puerto Rico and U.S. Court of Appeals, First Circuit; 1987, U.S. Temporary Emergency Court of Appeals; 1987, U.S. Supreme Court. Education: Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania (B.S. in Economics, 1970); University of Puerto Rico School of Law (J.D., *Magna Cum Laude*, 1973); Harvard University (LL.M., 1976). Associate Editor, University of Puerto Rico Law Review, 1972-1973. Adjunct Professor, Antitrust Law, Legal Research and Civil Procedure, University of Puerto Rico School of Law, 1974, 1976-1980, 1985-1992; Adjunct Professor, Internet Law, Interamerican University School of Law, 2002. Sweeting González Cestero & Bruno, San Juan, 1974-1975; McConnell Valdés, San Juan, 1976-1992, Partner and Chairman, Antitrust and Trade Regulation Practice Group. Member, Merit Selection Panel for Evaluation of United States Magistrates for the District of Puerto Rico, 1988. Panelist, Securities Law Conference, Office of the Commissioner of Financial Institutions of Puerto Rico, 1993 and 1994; Speaker: Securities Arbitration, Annual

**PIETRANTONI MENDEZ & ALVAREZ LLC**

Convention Hispanic Bar Association, 1995; Antitrust Law, Negotiation Skills, Conference of the Puerto Rico Department of Justice, 1996, 1997, Director, Vice Chairman of the Board, Puerto Rico Community Foundation, 1992-1997; Trustee, University of the Sacred Heart, 1993-; President, Fundación Enrique Martí Coll, 1992-; Secretary, Board of Directors, Compañía para el Desarrollo Integral de la Península de Cantera, 2002-. Author: "Inapplicability of Puerto Rico's Antitrust Law to Public Service Companies", 61 University of Puerto Rico Law Review, 1992; "Realities of the Puerto Rico Court for Minors", 42 University of Puerto Rico Law Review, 1973; "New Directives on the Problem of Surprise Visits and the Homes of Welfare Recipients", 41 University of Puerto Rico Law Review, 1972. Member: Puerto Rico, Federal, and American (Antitrust, Business Law, Construction Law, and Litigation Sections; and Committee on Intellectual Property Litigation) Bar Associations, International Trademark Association. **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Civil and Commercial Litigation, including, Environmental, Securities, Antitrust, Intellectual Property, and Product Liability Litigation.

**JOSÉ R. CESTERO**

Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico (1947). Bar Admission: 1978, Puerto Rico. Education: University of Puerto Rico (B.B.A., *Magna Cum Laude*, 1969; and J.D., *Magna Cum Laude*, 1978). Certified Public Accountant, Puerto Rico, 1971. Member: Puerto Rico and American Bar Associations; American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Federal and Puerto Rico Tax Law; Trusts and Estate Planning.

**MARÍA D. BERTÓLEZ-ELVIRA**

Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico (1974). Bar Admissions: 2000, Puerto Rico; 2000, U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico. Education: University of Pennsylvania (B.A., 1996); University of Puerto Rico, School of Law (J.D., 1999). Member: Puerto Rico Bar Association. **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Civil and Commercial Litigation.

**FERNANDO GOYCO-COVAS**

Born in Ponce, Puerto Rico (1950). Bar Admissions: 1976, Puerto Rico; 1977, U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico. Education: Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico (B.B.A., *Magna Cum Laude*, 1972); University of Puerto Rico (J.D., *Magna Cum Laude*, 1976). **MAIN PRACTICE AREA:** Tax and Tax Litigation.

**NÉSTOR R. NADAL-LÓPEZ**

Born in New York, New York (1953). Bar Admissions: 1991, Puerto Rico; 1992, U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico. Education: University of Puerto Rico (B.B.A., 1974); University of Puerto Rico, School of Law (J.D., 1990); Boston University (LL.M., Taxation, 1992); O'Neill & Borges, San Juan, 1992-1997. Member: Puerto Rico and American Bar Associations. **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Federal and Puerto Rico Tax Law; Employee Benefits Law, Trusts and Estates.

**JUAN CARLOS PÉREZ OTERO**

JES Born San Juan, Puerto Rico (1945). Bar Admissions: 1970, Puerto Rico; U.S. Court of Appeals, First Circuit; and U.S. District Court, Puerto Rico. Education: University of Puerto Rico (BBA, 1966, *Magna Cum Laude*; J.D., 1969, *Cum Laude*). Member: Puerto Rico and Federal Bar Associations. Practice: Associate, Cohen and Lespier (1970-1972); Partner, Lespier and Toro (1972-1981); Partner and Director of Labor and Employment Division, Fiddler Gonzales and Rodriguez (1981-2013), Counsel (2013-2016). **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Counselling employers on Labor and Employment Law; litigation of wage and hour, equal employment, wrongful termination and labor arbitration claims; counseling on union representation campaigns; designing strategy and acting as spokesman in collective bargaining negotiations; represents employers in National Labor Relations Board proceedings. Provides practical training to management on compliance with labor and employment laws and regulations.

**PATRICIA G. CARA**

Born in Syracuse, New York (1964). Bar Admissions: 1990, Puerto Rico. Education: Princeton University (B.A., 1985); University of Virginia (J.D., 1989). Dillard Fellow. Member: Puerto Rico and American Bar Association. **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Corporation Law; Mergers and Acquisitions; Commercial Lending.

**RICARDO O. MELÉNDEZ-SAURÍ**

Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico (1967). Bar Admissions: 1996, Puerto Rico and U.S. Court of Appeals, First Circuit; 1999, U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico. Education: University of Puerto Rico, School of Law (J.D., *Cum Laude*, 1995); University of Central Florida, Orlando (B.A., 1989); Practice: McConnell Valdés, San Juan, 1996-1997; General Counsel, Puerto Rico Public Broadcasting Corporation, 1997-2000. Member Puerto Rico and American Bar Associations. **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Corporate and Commercial Law; Entertainment Law; Real Estate Law.

**HÉCTOR SANTAELLA-SANTÉ**

JES  
Born in Bilbao, Spain (1976). Bar Admissions: Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (2003); U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico; U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit. Education: InterAmerican University of Puerto Rico, School of Law (J.D., *Cum Laude*, 2002); University of Puerto Rico (B.A., 1999); in 2002 served as member of the Interamerican University Law Review. **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Labor and Employment.

**ALICIA FIGUEROA-LLINÁS**

Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico (1968). Bar Admissions: Labor Law Committees of the Puerto Rico Bar Association and the Puerto Rico Chamber of Commerce and was designated as the Government Affairs Director of the Puerto Rico Chapter of the Society for Human Resources Management (SHRM) in 2012 and 2013; Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, 1993, U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico, 1994, U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, 1994. Education: University of Puerto Rico School of Law (J.D., *Cum Laude*, 1993); University of Puerto Rico (B.B.A., *Magna Cum Laude*, 1990). Memberships: American Bar Association, American Immigration Lawyers Association, Society for Human Resources Management. **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Labor and Employment.

**ERIKA M. CARRASQUILLO-ÁLVAREZ**

Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico (1984). Bar Admission: Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. Education: University of Puerto Rico Law School, San Juan, Puerto Rico (J.D., *Magna Cum Laude*, 2009); Associate Director, UPR Law Review, Vol. 78; Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania; Smeal College of Business (B.S., 2006) in Finance, Minor in International Business (High Distinction). **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Corporate and Commercial Law.

**MARÍA ISABEL REY**

*See* Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico (1971). Bar Admission: 1997 Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; 1998 U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico; U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit. Education: Georgetown University Law Center (LL.M., 1997); University of Puerto Rico, School of Law (J.D., *Cum Laude*, 1996); Vassar College (B.A., General and Departmental Honor, Phi Beta Kappa, 1993). Member: American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA); **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Employee Benefits and Executive Compensation; Immigration; Labor and Employment.

ASSOCIATES

**LIZ ARELIZ CRUZ-MASONAVE**

Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico (1978). Bar Admission: Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (2011); U.S. Court of Appeals, First Circuit; and U.S. District Court, Puerto Rico (2013). Education: University of Puerto Rico School of Law (J.D., *Magna Cum Laude*, 2010), University of Puerto Rico School of Communication (B.A., *Summa Cum Laude*, 2001). **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Litigation and Arbitration.

**JAMES R. GAVIN-INCLÁN**

Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico (1989). Bar Admission: Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (2015). Education: Boston College Law School, Newton, MA (J.D., 2014); Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA (B.A., 2011). **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Corporate and Commercial Law.

**VIVIANNA FIGUEROA-NAVARRO**

JES  
Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico (1988). Bar Admission: 2016, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (2016). Education: Interamerican University of Puerto Rico (B.B.A., *Cum Laude*, 2010) (M.B.A., 2012); University of Puerto Rico School of Law (J.D.; *Cum Laude*, 2015). **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Federal and Puerto Rico Tax Law.

**MARÍA CECILIA SANTOS**

Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico (1984). Bar Admission: Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (2013). Education: University of Puerto Rico, School of Law (J.D., 2013); University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez, PR (B.S., 2007). **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Corporate and Commercial Law; Governmental Affairs; Mergers, Acquisitions and Joint Ventures.

**BEATRIZ C. MENÉNDEZ-RIVERA**

Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico (1992). Bar Admission: Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (2018). Education: Boston University School of Law, Boston, MA (J.D., *Cum Laude*, 2017), Tufts

**PIETRANTONI MENDEZ & ALVAREZ LLC**

University, Medford, MA (B.A., 2014). **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Corporate and Commercial Law.

**CHRISTIAN MUÑOZ-LUGO**

Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico (1983). Bar Admission: Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (2015); United States District Court for the District of Puerto Rico (2018). Education: University of Puerto Rico (B.A. in Accounting, *Magna Cum Laude*, 2005); University of Delaware, Newark, DE (M.B.A., 2010) University of Puerto Rico, School of Law (J.D., *Magna Cum Laude*, 2014). **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Litigation and Arbitration.

**SOFÍA FRAGUADA-DÍAZ**

Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico (1992). Bar Admission: (2018). Education: University of Virginia, McIntire School of Commerce, Charlottesville, VA (B.S. in Commerce: Accounting and Finance, 2014); University of Puerto Rico (J.D./M.B.A., *Magna Cum Laude*, 2018). **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Corporate and Commercial.

**ANA SOFÍA VILLATE-BONILLA**

JE S  
Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico (1993). Bar Admission: Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (2018). Education: The George Washington University, Washington, D.C. (B.A. in Accountancy, *Cum Laude*, 2015); University of Puerto Rico, School of Law (J.D., *Magna Cum Laude*, 2018). **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Corporate.

**MARÍA FERNÁNDEZ**

Born in Ann Arbor, Michigan (1991). Bar Admissions: Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (2020). Education: University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN (B.A., 2013); University of Puerto Rico School of Law (J.D., *Magna Cum Laude*, 2019). **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Corporate.

**ISAAC A. FELICIANO-CORTÉS**

Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico (1990). Bar Admissions: (2020). Education: University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus (B.A., 2015); University of Puerto Rico School of Law

**PIETRANTONI MENDEZ & ALVAREZ LLC**

(J.D./M.B.A. Joint Degree Program, *Magna Cum Laude*, 2019). **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Tax Law.

**SARITZA RIVERA VEGA**

Born in Caguas, Puerto Rico (1990). Bar Admissions: Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. Education: University of Michigan Law School (LL.M., 2020); University of Puerto Rico School of Law (J.D., *Magna Cum Laude*, 2017); University Camilo José Cela, Madrid, Spain (Master in Image Political Consultancy, 2014); University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus (B.A. in Finance and Political Science, 2012). **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Litigation.

**JULIÁN RODRÍGUEZ-MUÑOZ**

Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico (1989). Bar Admissions: Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. Education: University of Puerto Rico, School of Law, San Juan, P.R. (*Cum Laude*, 2016); University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez (B.A., Accounting, 2013); **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Litigation.

**MARÍA ELENA MARTÍNEZ**

Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico (1991). Bar Admissions: Commonwealth of Massachusetts (2016); United States District Court for the District of Puerto Rico (2017); New York State Bar (2020). Education: Loyola University Chicago School of Law (J.D. 2016); Massachusetts Institute of Technology (B.S. 2013). **MAIN PRACTICE AREAS:** Litigation and Arbitration.



## CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, Jaime E. Santos, in my capacity as Managing Member of Pietrantoní Méndez & Alvarez LLC, hereby certify that the names and title of the attorneys and paralegals currently working at our firm and their rates (including a 15% discount) are:

Name	Title	AFFAF's Proposed Rate
Aguiló, Jason	Limited Member	\$195.50
Annoni, Carmen T.	Senior Paralegal	\$ 97.75
Arias, Eduardo J.	Member	\$263.50
Bautista, Sofia	Associate	\$127.50
Bertólez, Maria D.	Counsel	\$216.75
Billoch, Amanda	Limited Member	\$182.75
Camacho, Karina	Member	\$208.25
Cara, Patricia G.	Counsel	\$246.50
Carrasquillo, Erika M.	Counsel	\$182.75
Cestero, José R.	Counsel	\$289.00
Colberg, Herman G.	Member	\$233.75
Cruz, Edwin	Member	\$250.75
Cruz, Liz Arelis	Associate	\$174.25
De Félix, Rocio	Associate	\$153.00
Del Valle, Manuel	Member	\$229.50
Feliciano, Isaac	Associate	\$136.00
Fernández, Felicia	Paralegal	\$ 93.50
Fernández, Maria A.	Associate	\$136.00
Figueroa, Alicia	Counsel	\$221.00
Figueroa, Viviana	Associate	\$170.00
Fraguada, Sofia	Associate	\$144.50
Gavin, James	Associate	\$178.50
González, Guillermo	Paralegal	\$ 93.50
Goyco, Fernando	Counsel	\$297.50
Hernández, Arturo L.	Limited Member	\$178.50
Hernández, Cristina	Associate	\$170.00
Hull, Donald E.	Member	\$310.25
Laurido, Marcia	Associate	\$144.50
Marrero, Iván	Member	\$242.25
Martínez, María E.	Associate	\$153.00
Meléndez, Ricardo O.	Counsel	\$208.25
Méndez, Néstor M.	Counsel	\$314.50
Molina, Antonio R.	Member	\$242.25
Muñoz, Christian	Associate	\$170.00
Murgia, Diego	Member	\$204.00
Nadal, Néstor R.	Counsel	\$216.75

JES

Ochoa, Margaret	Associate	\$127.50
Padró, Sandra	Paralegal	\$ 97.75
Peirats, Jorge I.	Member	\$280.50
Pérez Otero, Juan C.	Counsel	\$229.50
Pérez, Diana M.	Senior Paralegal	\$ 97.75
Pesquera, Frances	Limited Member	\$187.00
Pietrantonio, Manuel R.	Member	\$318.75
Ramirez, Priscilla M.	Limited Member	\$182.75
Ramos, Francis	Paralegal	\$ 89.25
Ramos, Oreste	Member	\$238.00
Rey, María I.	Counsel	\$212.50
Reyes, Melinda	Paralegal	\$ 93.50
Rios, Edgar	Member	\$263.50
Rivera, Dianette	Member	\$208.25
Rivera, Melvin J.	Limited Member	\$216.75
Rivera, Saritza	Associate	\$144.50
Rodríguez, Julian R.	Associate	\$153.00
Rodríguez, Manuel	Member	\$242.25
Román, Viviana	Paralegal	\$ 93.50
Santaella, Héctor	Counsel	\$178.50
Santos, Antonio J.	Member	\$310.25
Santos, Jaime E.	Member	\$289.00
Santos, María C.	Associate	\$165.75
Souss. Jorge E.	Limited Member	\$216.75
Trelles, María D.	Member	\$225.25
Vélez, Sara L.	Limited Member	\$212.50
Villate, Ana S.	Associate	\$144.50

In Witness Whereof, I sign this Certification in San Juan, Puerto Rico, today, July 30, 2021.

Name: Jaime E. Santos  
Title: Managing Member



# GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO

## Puerto Rico Fiscal Agency and Financial Advisory Authority

Rev. 08/2020

### Billing Guidelines for Outside Counsel

#### Introduction

The Puerto Rico Fiscal Agency and Financial Advisory Authority ("FAFAA") may engage the services of law firms or sole practitioner attorneys (collectively and hereinafter "Outside Counsel") to provide certain legal services for managing its legal risks and affairs (the "Legal Services").

The Outside Counsel shall be committed to providing Legal Services with the highest quality standards and in the most reasonable, prompt, efficient and cost-effective manner. Therefore, FAFAA expects Outside Counsel to stress integrity and to uphold the highest standards of professionalism and ethical conduct in ensuring timely, responsive, and cost-effective legal services by complying with these billing guidelines (the "Guidelines").

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The Guidelines set forth FAFAA's expectations relative to the Legal Services being provided and the nature of the working relationship with Outside Counsel. Through the Guidelines, FAFAA hereby provides Outside Counsel with an understanding of what legal fees and expenses FAFAA will pay and reimburse. Furthermore, these Guidelines shall constitute a written agreement by the parties for any matter to which the Outside Counsel is engaged on behalf of FAFAA. These Guidelines shall govern the billing terms of the professional relationship between FAFAA and Outside Counsel.

FAFAA considers Outside Counsel's invoices for services rendered (the "Invoices") as a certification by Outside Counsel that the billing for services, as reflected on the Invoices, is reasonable for the legal matters involved, and necessary for the proper rendering of the Legal Services relative thereto.

FAFAA expects Outside Counsel to strictly adhere to the Guidelines and to charge for actual legal services rendered, at the rates established and agreed in advance by the parties, and to refrain from billing non-billable work or expenses. Compliance with the Guidelines will avoid delays in processing Invoices or the possible nonpayment of the services provided. Please note that the Guidelines may be modified and amended from time to time and in the event of any amendment or modification, Outside Counsel will be notified accordingly. FAFAA expects Outside Counsel to become familiar with the Guidelines and if there are any questions relative thereto then Outside Counsel should contact FAFAA's Legal Department.

The following rules shall govern Outside Counsel's billing for the Legal Services and its presentation of the Invoices:

**A. Billing Rates and Fee Arrangements**

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- i. FAFAA expects to be charged reasonable fees for the Legal Services, pursuant to the applicable code of professional conduct. A reasonable fee is considered to be the product of: a) the amount of time reasonably necessary to devote to the matter by appropriately qualified legal professionals, and b) the customary or previously agreed to billing rates (the "Billing Rates") of those legal professionals involved in the rendering of the Legal Services. Furthermore, FAFAA expects Outside Counsel to use prudence and reasonableness in rendering the Legal Services, refraining from providing more legal services than are actually needed to complete the same.
  - ii. Under no circumstance will FAFAA pay for Outside Counsel's overhead expenses, as they are generally categorized in accordance to applicable accounting principles.
  - iii. Legal Services will be billed in increments of 6 minutes or 1/10 of an hour.
  - iv. Unless otherwise agreed upon in advance, all hourly billing rates shall be solely on the basis of the Billing Rates. Absent a specific agreement for an alternative fee arrangement for a specific legal service, Outside Counsel's fees shall be computed by applying the Billing Rates to the reasonable time actually incurred in rendering the Legal Services.
  - v. The level of expertise of the lawyer assigned to a matter referred by FAFAA shall be appropriate to the complexity of the legal issue therein. Therefore, partners in the law firm shall not bill for tasks that can be performed by an associate at a lower cost. Furthermore, FAFAA requires Outside Counsel to assign less demanding legal tasks to less senior lawyers in order to minimize legal expenses. Additionally, for matters of similar nature occasionally referred to Outside Counsel, FAFAA expects Outside Counsel to assign an attorney with prior experience with such matter. Outside Counsel shall ensure that the worked performed by the assigned lawyer(s) is reasonable, useful, and done efficiently.
  - vi. In the event that Outside Counsel anticipates incurring in significant billable hours or expenses in excess of the normal amount within a particular month, Outside Counsel shall contact FAFAA to notify of the anticipated excess amount of billable hours or expenses during that month and shall include a reasonably detailed explanation of the reasons for such additional costs.

**B. Referrals and Budgets**

- i. Unless otherwise agreed by the parties, FAFAA expects Outside Counsel to prepare and provide FAFAA's Legal Department with a brief written legal strategy or case plan for all

litigation legal matters, as well as a budget for the handling of such matter, within the first fifteen (15) days following its referral to Outside Counsel. The case plan, when applicable, should include:

- a. An estimated budget of the legal fees and expenses that could potentially be incurred;
- b. A preliminary assessment of FAFAA's exposure and possible liability;
- c. a plan for the discovery process;
- d. Potential defenses for FAFAA, and the practicability and potential for early disposition of the case by reaching a favorable settlement with the other party. Outside Counsel should seek a dispositive resolution or early settlement, where possible, if such course of action is in the best interests of FAFAA;
- e. Written instructions regarding who should be covered by any applicable litigation hold, and the type of data that should be preserved by the different areas of the FAFAA, Outside Counsel should be responsible for ensuring that litigation holds are diligently placed on potentially relevant documents and those potentially relevant employees are notified of these holds as soon as possible. Furthermore, Outside Counsel should make sure that the holds are periodically reiterated so that all potentially relevant employees are aware of and remember the holds, and all potentially relevant documents are included in the holds.

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- ii. FAFAA may refer to Outside Counsel a particular matter which may require extended work or research or may seek the advice or assistance of Outside Counsel in special projects. In any such case, Outside Counsel shall prepare and provide FAFAA with an estimated budget of the legal fees and expenses that could potentially be incurred FAFAA for the handling of such matter. It is expected of Outside Counsel to reflect its best judgment as of the time the budget is prepared in order to avoid deviating from the estimated budget initially submitted.
- iii. Prior to undertaking any extended research on a particular matter, Outside Counsel should previously consult with FAFAA in order to get approval to proceed with the extended research project. FAFAA will not to pay for research of general or background nature and no legal research that requires more than four (4) hours of work should be undertaken without obtaining FAFAA's written authorization. FAFAA will reimburse Outside Counsel for necessary computerized research at the actual cost of the service after volume discounts, only if prior written approval from FAFAA's Legal Department is obtained. FAFAA encourages Outside Counsel to seek and obtain volume discounts for electronic research. Outside Counsel is expected to be familiar with the basic substantive law at issue in the matter for which Outside Counsel was retained, and FAFAA should not generally be charged for this type of research.

- iv. When requested, Outside Counsel shall provide FAFAA with monthly status reports of all pending matters (the "Monthly Status Reports"). The form of the Monthly Status Report shall be previously agreed upon by Outside Counsel and FAFAA.

C. Staffing Matters

- i. FAFAA will not pay for or authorize:

- a. Administrative charges such as:

- i. Scheduling or review of personnel;

- ii. Preparation and review of billing statements;

- iii. Preparation of budgets of time litigation case strategy or plan, staffing of total costs of projected legal work;

- iv. Preparation of the Monthly Status Reports;

- v. Preparation of Audit Letters to our external auditors;

- vi. Preparation of any other status report; or

- vii. Negotiation, review, and/or drafting of retention or engagement agreement between FAFAA and the Outside Counsel.

- b. Grazing: FAFAA will not pay for billed time for getting up to date with any legal matter. This includes:

- i. Time spent by newly assigned attorneys/paralegals to familiarize themselves with a matter.

- ii. Time spent for file reviews if an event does not precipitate that file review or it does not result in the creation of any tangible work product.

- c. Block billing: All tasks must be billed separately. No payment will be made for entries that consist of two or more task descriptions.

- d. Vague, confusing or otherwise undetailed time entries.

- e. Time associated with research on general client or industry trends, and time expended on "canned" research, such as research of a generic nature or for a prior case or issue.

- f. Intra-office conferences that deal with substantive issues are reimbursable when a thorough description of the purpose is provided. No more than two attorneys shall bill for an intra-office conference.

- g. Overstaffing: One attorney should be assigned to each matter. FAFAA's written authorization is required should more than one attorney be necessary to perform a legal

service. Such written authorization may be provided by e-mail for Outside Counsel's various billing matters. The approval of Outside Counsel's invoices by the supervising FAFAA personnel will also constitute such written authorization. Overstaffing includes:

- i. More than one attorney attending a trial, motion hearing, conference, meeting, conference call or deposition;
- ii. More than one attorney billing for reading or reviewing internal written communication (including email); or
- iii. Inclusion of associates at meetings or hearings for the purpose of associate development.

Outside Counsel should explain why the circumstances warrant an exception from this general rule. FAFAA reserves the right of not paying the hours billed by any additional lawyer if FAFAA's written approval is not obtained by Outside Counsel.

h. Payment of associate/partner fees for clerical or secretarial tasks that are not otherwise considered part of Outside Counsel's overhead. Please have paralegals perform these tasks.

i. The review, execution and processing of agreements between the Outside Counsel and FAFAA.

j. Any time spent at seminars or other training, unless otherwise specifically approved in writing.

k. Summer associate, temporary or contract attorney, or other intern time unless it has previously been identified as part of the approved staffing in the Billing Rates approved by FAFAA.

ii. If a previously drafted pleading or standard form is available, FAFAA will pay only for the amount of time necessary to modify the document for use in the specific legal matter and not the time originally incurred to draft the standard document.

iii. Subject to the provisions of subsection (i) of this Section C, FAFAA will not pay for administrative work performed by attorneys, such as managing or supervising other attorneys, nor will pay for in-firm meetings, conferences, consultations and communications among attorneys.

iv. FAFAA shall not pay for duplication of time caused by:

- a. Transfer of a legal matter to a new attorney for internal reasons;
- b. Double teaming; or
- c. One attorney or paralegal redoing the work of another.

v. Prior to any meeting or conference call, Outside Counsel may provide FAFAA team members with an agenda for said meeting or conference call detailing the matters to be discussed, as well as a guideline for suggested next steps after any such meeting or conference call.

*D. Billing and Invoicing*

i. The Invoices shall be in a consistent format that complies with the ABA's Uniform Task-Based Management System. Hours shown in the Invoices must accurately reflect the actual time spent on the described activity and must either be the exact amount of time or the exact time rounded to the nearest six (6) minutes or 1/10 of an hour.

ii. Each task or activity shall be separately itemized on the Invoices, including a break-down thereof that at a minimum shall include:

a. A chronological listing of all services;

b. A description of the service being billed. The description shall include (i) the type of work being performed and (ii) the subject matter;

c. The name of each attorney or legal professional whose work is being billed;

d. The date of the service;

e. The amount of time spent by each person on each item in the interval increments defined herein; and

f. The Billing Rate at which the service is being billed.

iii. Entries for telephone conversations, conferences, meetings and court conferences must specifically describe all parties involved and the subject matter or purpose of the task.

iv. FAFAA will not pay for billed services whose descriptions lack specificity.

v. If requested by FAFAA, the Invoices shall include a summary thereof, including:

a. Name and initials of each time keeper;

b. Staff classification including for each category of legal personnel (Partner, Junior Partner, Associate, Paralegal, Law Clerk, and Summer Associate);

c. Hourly billing rate of each time keeper; and

d. Total time and fees billed for each time keeper by subject matter.

vi. If requested by FAFAA, the Invoices shall also include an overall summary by staff classification, including for each category of legal personnel (partner, Junior Partner, Associate, Paralegal, Law Clerk, and Summer Associate), the number of individuals in each category, the total number of hours by each category, and the total fees by category.



vii. If requested by FAFAA, the Invoices shall also include a billing history or summary of all fees and expenses incurred in a particular matter up to the invoicing date along with a comparison to the total budgeted or contracted amounts.

i. FAFAA reserves the absolute right to make any changes, at its sole discretion, to the fees included in the Invoices if it reasonably believes that the amount of time devoted to the matter by the legal professional or the timekeeper should be reduced.

viii. Any Invoices without the required information included or attached will not be processed for payment and will be returned to Outside Counsel for the corresponding corrections or modifications.

ix. The Outside Counsel's partner in charge of the FAFAA account (the "Account Partner") shall review the Invoices prior to submitting them to FAFAA and should be able to explain all of its time charges if so requested.

x. Furthermore, the Account Partner shall certify the accuracy and reasonableness of the Invoices and their compliance to the Guidelines and all applicable ethical rules. FAFAA reserves the right to withhold or deny approval of the Invoices in the event the Guidelines are not complied with.

E. Expense Reimbursement

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i. FAFAA will not pay and will not separately reimburse Outside Counsel for overhead costs. Expenses that are considered Outside Counsel's overhead are part of the professional's hourly rate and are not reimbursable. The term overhead includes, but is not limited to all administrative or general costs incidental to the operation of the Outside Counsel including without limitation office rent, conference rooms, equipment, computer software, office supplies, telephone and mobile charges, books, meals, routine postage, the services of librarians, file clerks, data entry clerks, photocopy operators, secretaries, overtime or utilities, word processors, docket clerks, other support personnel, or any other overhead expense as recognized by applicable accounting standards.

ii. Non reimbursable tasks include photocopying, binding, scanning, indexing, collating, coding, filing, transmitting and preparing letters, mailing, faxing, emailing, word processing, proofreading, case tracking, scheduling, events, data entry, library usage, internal conference call charges, invoicing, billing, staffing, or other similar clerical or ministerial functions.

iii. The Invoices may also include additional legal expenses to be charged by Outside Counsel as previously authorized by FAFAA, with a total for those legal expenses charged at a reasonable market price. Each such additional legal expense item shall be:

- a. Separately itemized;
- b. Show the date the expense was incurred;
- c. Include a descriptive explanation of the charge;

d. Indicate the amount of the charge; and

e. Indicate the timekeeper who incurred the charge.

iv. All expenses will be reimbursed at actual cost and Outside Counsel shall not upcharge any of the expenses incurred in providing services to FAFAA. FAFAA will not pay for normal transportation costs incurred in travel to and from the office or for overtime transportation. Car services during travel are limited to taxicab or transportation network companies' fares.

v. FAFAA will reimburse Outside Counsel for reasonable and necessary delivery charges. However, charges for time spent preparing mail packages are considered as part of the Outside Counsel's overhead and are not reimbursable. Third party courier and express delivery services should be used cautiously. Photocopying will be reimbursed at the actual cost to Outside Counsel and which under no circumstances shall exceed ten (10) cents per page.

vi. When using court reporters, FAFAA will reimburse Outside Counsel for actual costs incurred for court reporters and transcripts, but will only pay for one copy of a transcript, both electronic and hard. Outside Counsel shall make reasonable efforts to obtain the lowest possible charge for court reporting fees, including all possible volume discounts, if available. Transcription expenses must identify the court reporter and the services provided such as the number of transcripts or pages, hard copies, files or tapes.

vii. Disbursements for pre-approved reimbursable expenses will be compensated at actual cost with the appropriate documentation to substantiate the expenses such as actual vendor receipts, which shall be included in the Invoices as an attachment. Actual cost is defined as the amount paid to a third-party service provider, net of any discounts.

viii. FAFAA expects Outside Counsel to immediately provide any back up documentation for a particular disbursement charge if it so requires. FAFAA will not pay for unsupported charges.

#### **F. Third Party Subcontracting**

i. If Outside Counsel deems it necessary to use any other law firm, attorney, or other third party providers (the "Third Party") in providing a service in a matter it is handling for FAFAA, then such request shall be made to FAFAA's Legal Department prior to the retention or hiring thereof.

ii. Unless a different billing arrangement is authorized by FAFAA, Outside Counsel shall directly pay the Third Party for work performed in connection with services rendered on behalf of FAFAA.

ix. Payments to the Third Party should be included as a disbursement on Outside Counsel's next subsequent invoice to FAFAA and said invoice shall be accompanied by the Third Party's corresponding billing detail which shall also be in full compliance with the Guidelines.

x. Outside Counsel shall not upcharge or surcharge any of the Third Party's billings or expenses incurred in providing services to FAFAA. FAFAA will only reimburse the actual cost of only pre-approved Third Party's services.

v. All Third Party invoices paid by Outside Counsel shall be included in the Invoices as an attachment and as an itemized expense must, absent specific prior approval to the contrary, also comply with the Guidelines.

YES

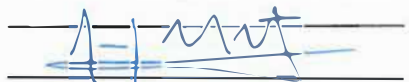
**OUTSIDE COUNSEL ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

The Outside Counsel through its Account Partner, or representative noted herein, acknowledges the receipt and review of FAFAA's Billing Guidelines for Outside Counsel. Kindly indicate your acceptance and agreement to adhere to the above guidelines by signing a copy thereof and returning the same to FAFAA.

By signing this acknowledgment, you further certify that you will only remit invoices to FAFAA that fully comply with all terms and conditions contained in the Guidelines.

This document may be signed in counterparts and a copy of the execution signature shall be as effective as an original. Furthermore, all fully executed copies shall be considered duplicate originals.

So acknowledged and accepted by:



Jaime E. Santos

Managing Member

This 30<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2021.

### **Consultant's Approved Persons for Travel**

1. Manuel R. Pietrantonio
2. Manuel Rodríguez Boissen
3. Eduardo J. Arias
4. Amanda Billoch
5. María Fernández

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## Contractor Certification Requirement

In accordance with the Financial Oversight and Management Board for Puerto Rico's ("FOMB") Policy for Review of Contracts effective as of November 6, 2017, as modified on April 30, 2021, the following certification is provided in connection with the proposed contract for professional services submitted to the FOMB for review (the "Contract") and to be executed between Puerto Rico Fiscal Agency and Financial Advisory Authority and Pietrantoní Méndez & Alvarez LLC (the "Contractor"):

1. The Contractor certifies that the Contractor's subcontractor(s) that may provide services in connection with the Contract<sup>1</sup> are the following:

- i. MRP Advisors LLC
- ii. Mendez LLC
- iii. Cestero Calzada LLC
- iv. FGC Legal Services, LLC

The owner of the subcontractors are Manuel R. Pietrantoní - MRP Advisors LLC, Néstor Méndez Gómez - Mendez LLC, José R. Cestero Calzada - Cestero Calzada LLC and Fernando L. Goyco Covas - FGC Legal Services, LLC, each a former member of the Contractor that is no longer an employee of the Contractor, but continues to provide services to the Contractor on a contract basis, as required from time to time, for all of the Contractor's clients, including Puerto Rico Fiscal Agency and Financial Advisory Authority. We pay to each subcontractor for the time worked on each matter assigned to them from time to time, when such amount is paid by the applicable client. The Contractor retains a percentage of the fees billed and collected for the work performed by each subcontractor to cover overhead expenses.

2. Neither the Contractor nor any of its owners<sup>2</sup>, partners, directors, officials or employees, has agreed to share or give a percentage of the Contractor's compensation under the Contract to, or otherwise compensate, any third party, whether directly or indirectly, in connection with the procurement, negotiation, execution or performance of the Contract.

3. To the best knowledge of the signatory (after due investigation), no person has unduly intervened in the procurement, negotiation or execution of the Contract, for its own benefit or that of a third person, in contravention of applicable law.

4. To the best knowledge of the signatory (after due investigation), no person has: (i) offered, paid, or promised to pay money to; (ii) offered, given, or promised to give anything of value to; or (iii) otherwise influenced any public official or employee with the purpose of securing any advantages, privileges or favors for the benefit of such person in connection with the Contract (such as the execution of a subcontract with the Contractor, beneficial treatment under the Contract, or the written or unwritten promise of a gift, favor, or other monetary or non-monetary benefit).

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<sup>1</sup> As used herein, the term "Contract" is inclusive of any amendments, modifications or extensions.

<sup>2</sup> For purposes of this certification, a contractor's "owner" shall mean any person or entity with more than a ten percent (10%) ownership interest in the contractor.

5. Neither the Contractor, nor any of its owners, partners, directors, officials or employees or, to the best of its knowledge (after due investigation), its representatives or sub-contractors, has required, directly or indirectly, from third persons to take any action with the purpose of influencing any public official or employee in connection with the procurement, negotiation or execution of the Contract.

6. Any incorrect, incomplete or false statement made by the contractor's representative as part of this certification shall cause the nullity of the proposed contract and the contractor must reimburse immediately to the Commonwealth any amounts, payments or benefits received from the Commonwealth under the proposed contract.

I hereby certify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is complete, true and correct.



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By: Jaime E. Santos  
Title: Managing Member of  
Pietrantoní Méndez & Álvarez LLC  
Date: July 30, 2021