

Hernández & Cía adds tax and labour partners

Eloise Hardy 11 January 2021

() () () ()



Rodrigo Flores Benavides

Peruvian firm Hernández & Cía Abogados has added to its tax offering by hiring a senior associate from CMS Grau as partner, and promoting one senior associate in its labour practice to the top rank.

Tax lawyer Rodrigo Flores, 39, joined from CMS Grau on 1 January after ten years as a senior associate at his former firm. Diego Castillo was promoted to partner in December. He heads Hernández & Cía's labour practice.

The firm now has 21 partners and 90 lawyers.

When asked why he joined the firm, Flores described Hernández & Cía Abogados as having “among the best, if not the best, tax practices in the country, so joining a team such as this has always been one of my career goals.”

Hernández & Cía has a longstanding reputation in tax, with the market-leading practice helmed by partners Luis Hernández Berenguel, Milagros Bustillos and Leonardo López. The firm is also well-regarded for transactional work, especially in private equity. The banking and finance practice is prominent and it has a strong offering in project finance, infrastructure, energy and labour.

Flores adds that his decision was encouraged by the growth the firm has experienced over the years. “Hernández & Cía Abogados boasts an impressive client roster, a clear path for the next decade and, even more importantly, a friendly environment and freedom to develop one’s career.”

Flores is cautiously optimistic for 2021, and says the firm is likely to handle lots of work linked to the fallout from regulation rushed through in early 2020 in response to the covid-19 pandemic. “A lot of the tax regulation passed in the first months of the pandemic as a result of covid-19 should have benefited taxpayers significantly, [but] were not necessarily well drafted. Those rushed laws ended up with a lot of contradictions and gaps,” he explains. “I foresee a lot of finetuning of these regulations, which will affect our clients.”

As well as adding Flores, Hernández & Cía has boosted other areas, bringing in two female associates from CMS Grau and professional services company PwC to build its energy and international trade practice areas. Last month, the firm added a corporate associate from Miami-based CdR Hollander Asset Management. It also appointed ten senior associates via promotions and elevated seven interns to associate.

Managing partner Juan Luis Hernández says the firm made more senior associate promotions in 2020 than in any previous year. “2020 struck the world very hard and it has been quite a challenge for us to keep business rolling in times of extreme uncertainty. However, our talent is by far our biggest asset, so promoting our people and bringing key members to bring muscle will always be one of our biggest business strategies,” says Hernández.

The latest people moves follow the July hire of partner Jorge Reátegui, who used to be the real estate practice co-head at Philippi Prietocarrizosa Ferrero DU & Uría (Peru). Reátegui had been at PPU for 10 years and was at Ferrero Abogados before it was incorporated into PPU in 2015. He brought his team with him to Hernández & Cía, associates Alan Pasco and Vicente Portugal.

Practice area: Labour, Tax

Country: Peru