

Santiago Gonzalez

Partner



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Bogotá

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Overview

Santiago is a partner of the Firm focusing his practice on providing legal counsel mainly in the oil and gas, energy, mining and cannabis sectors. Santiago has more than 10 years of experience in legal matters related to hydrocarbons (upstream, midstream and downstream), mining, natural resources, agri-business and real estate. His work focuses on mergers and acquisitions, foreign investment, financings, regulation, drafting and negotiation of commercial agreements for the acquisition, operation and transfer of participating interests in natural resources assets, among others.

Recently, he has provided counsel to oil & gas companies such as Gran Tierra Energy in its acquisition of a participating interest and operatorship in E&P contract held by Vetra Exploración & Producción, Argentinian energy conglomerate Petroquímica Comodoro Rivadavia in its acquisition of a participating interest in a gas producing field, and La Luna E&P, in their day-to-day operations in Colombia, including drilling of exploratory wells. Santiago has also been legal advisor in Colombia to cannabis companies such as MedReleaf Corp. (subsidiary of Aurora Cannabis Inc.) in their opening of the Colombian cannabis project and Canadian Khiron Life Sciences in their financings and listing at the TSX Venture Exchange.

Experience

- **Gran Tierra Energy Inc.:** Assisting with the negotiation and execution of two farm-in agreements for the acquisition of a participating interest and operatorship in the Aleas 1947-C E&P Contract and Aleas 1848-A E&P Contract held by Vetra Exploración & Producción.
- **Gran Tierra Energy:** Counseling on the signing of agreements for the acquisition of three oil blocks located in the Departments of Arauca and Putumayo, Colombia. This transaction was possible through a series of asset sales agreements signed with the Colombian company, Vetra Exploración y Producción Colombia S.A.S. and the acquisition of shares of the Spanish company Vetra Southeast S.L.U.
- **Red Kite:** Assisting in the design and implementation of a new Colombian security package including a collateral agency structure according to which new pledges and mortgages were negotiated and granted to Red Kite and Triple Flag (acting through Red Kite in its capacity of Collateral Agent). Furthermore, supporting in the negotiation and reviewing of the amended and restated credit agreement, inter-creditor agreement and

the collateral agency agreement from the Colombian law perspective, together with the negotiation and registration of the Colombian pledges and mortgages.

- **Petroquímica Comodoro Rivadavia S.A.:** Advisor to Argentinian group Petroquímica Comodoro Rivadavia S.A. in the due diligence and negotiation of farmout and joint operating agreement for the acquisition of a participating interest in a gas producing asset.
- **La Luna Resources:** Advisor to La Luna Resources in the drafting and negotiation of drilling contract and other relates oilfield services agreements associated to its operations in Colombia.
- **Pentanova Energy:** Advisor to Pentanova Energy in the due diligence and negotiation of farmout and joint operating agreement for the acquisition of oil & gas assets in Colombia.
- **Pacific Rubiales Energy Corp. (Today Frontera Energy):** Advisor for Pacific Rubiales Energy Corp. in takeover of E&P companies Petrominerales, C&C Energia and Petromagdalena with assets in Colombia, Ecuador, Brazil and Peru, for a an aggregate amount of over US\$2.5 Billion.

Recognition

- *Chambers Latin America 2020: Energy & Natural Resources* – Colombia, Up and Coming.
- *Chambers Global 2019: Energy & Natural Resources* – Colombia, Up and Coming.
- *Best Lawyers 2020: Recognition.*

Areas of focus

Practices

- Environment and Natural Resources
- Corporate
- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Banking and Finance

Industry sectors

- Energy

Region

- Bogotá

Education

- London School of Economics, 2012, LL.M.
- Universidad Externado de Colombia, 2011, Specialist in Mining-Oil Law
- Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, 2005, Law

Languages

- English
- Spanish