

Corporate INTL

Legal Awards

2010



International Legal Awards for Practice Excellence

CONTENTS

- 4-5 Watson, Farley & Williams LLP
- 6 Africa & the Middle East
- 22 Asia & Oceania
- 52 Central & South America
- 81 Europe
- 160 North America & the Caribbean
- 182 Glossary
- 188 CJTBS (Louisiana – USA)
-

Welcome

to the Corporate INTL, 2010 Legal Awards Supplement.

Corporate INTL 2010 Legal Awards are a mark of practice excellence for the world's leading law firms and lawyers in an array of countries and continents across the globe. The 2010 Legal Awards are given in recognition to those who have been active over the past 12 months and who have shown excellence not only in expertise but in service during a difficult global economic downturn.

In order to choose our Legal Award winners we undertook detailed research in all practice areas through our editorial and research teams and created a shortlist of firms that are experts in their chosen specialisms.

The firms shortlisted were researched by our own independent team looking at their service range, business, where they operate and the support they can offer to companies that either trade or may want to trade in their jurisdiction.

We have broken down the winners by continent and practice area. Naturally many of the firms selected can offer a multitude of services to their clients, some have chosen to profile their expertise in the area of law that they have won the award for.

We hope you find this showcase of some of the world's leading advisers of interest and that winners receive all the plaudits they deserve for their success during 2010.

Corporate INTL.

Editor:
Kirsty Hannon – kirstyhannon@corp-intl.com

Designer:
Leanne Pickering – leannepickering@corp-intl.com

Corporate INTL
148-149, Great Charles Street,
Birmingham,
B3 3HT
Tel: +44 (0) 121 236 0411

Reprints & Permission
All rights reserved. No part of Global Law Experts may be reproduced or transmitted in any manner or by any means without the prior permission of the publishers.

Disclaimer
Every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the contents of Global Law Experts. However, the publishers cannot accept responsibility for any errors and subsequent claims made by any third parties.



North America & the Caribbean

The economies of North America and the Caribbean are extremely diverse. The US and Canada have similarly modern and sophisticated economic systems, while the economy of the Caribbean is heavily influenced by the US and still undergoing major developments in various sectors.

The US has the largest and most technologically developed economy in the world. Business firms in the US enjoy a greater degree of flexibility compared to businesses in other regions in terms of innovation and expansion.

While the strategy for most companies in 2009 was about getting back to basics and weathering the storm, 2010 has been very different for North America.

Deal making has surged in the second quarter with 94 deals completed, a rise of almost 50% from the previous quarter. This increase has put North American deal makers ahead of those in other regions in terms of performance, surpassing the global market by 3.8%.

An interesting aspect of the second quarter is that cross-border deals, which are traditionally viewed as more challenging, outperformed domestic deals. Over half of all cross-border deals completed in the second quarter took place in North America.

Canada is equipped with a high tech industrial economy, and resembles the US in its market oriented economic system, production pattern and high living standards. Canada's economy, which has outperformed that of the US since the beginning of the financial crisis, is showing signs of slowing down. The housing market boom, which helped drive the country's recovery from recession, is starting to stall. However, the housing market is being replaced by other

drivers such as business investment in machinery and equipment, and Canada is expected to lead the G7 nations in economic growth for at least the next two years. This can be attributed to several factors, including the country's sound banking system, its abundance of resources, and its lower levels of government debt.

The Caribbean has not escaped the global financial crisis, but the region withstood the difficulties more successfully than in past downturns. This is due to better macroeconomic management, more efficient structural policies, and a vigorous business sector.

The majority of the Caribbean's import-export business is with the United States, and most of the region's tourists are US citizens. This means that the US economy has a great deal of influence on the Caribbean, particularly as tourism is the primary industry of the region.

Despite the global economic turbulence, the Caribbean remains one of the world's most popular tourist regions, and the Caribbean Tourism Organization is expecting tourism in the region to grow by up to 3% in 2010. This growth will have a knock-on effect on many of the region's other industries. Many islands in the Caribbean are now looking to expand their export base and privatise government-controlled industries in order to lessen their reliance on the US economy and to reduce the severity of future downturns.



Law Office Of NiaLena Caravazos, LLC

NiaLena Caravazos, Esq. – Founding Partner
+1 215.925.5201
NiaLena4Defense@gmail.com
www.nialenacaravazos.com

“For The Best Federal Criminal Defense ... Follow ‘The Road Not Taken,’ Robert Frost”

- NiaLena Caravazos, Esq.

NiaLena Caravazos, Esq. is a passionate and relentless advocate who doesn't take no for an answer and who has substantial experience in extremely complicated high-profile federal criminal cases involving extensive electronic surveillance and wiretaps as well as extensive documentary evidence. A strong believer in Robert Frost's "The Road Not Taken," many of her courtroom successes have come in matters that others considered hopeless.

She was the youngest and only female attorney to defend a reputed organized crime figure in the nearly five-month federal RICO prosecution of *United States v. Joseph Merlino* and, following the jury's acquittal of her client of attempted murder and racketeering charges, NiaLena's closing argument was subsequently selected among nationwide submissions and spotlighted by the *Center for Criminal Justice Advocacy* in Houston. She has since become lead counsel in serious multi-defendant criminal cases and was recently the youngest and only female member of the defense trial team representing Senator Vincent Fumo, long regarded as the most powerful politician in Pennsylvania, in his five-month high-profile trial in federal court, where she was the co-author of an emergency motion that made headline news in *The New York Times* and *ABC News*.

Recognized repeatedly by her peers as a "Pennsylvania Super Lawyer"

in the field of Criminal Defense and also as a "Preeminent Lawyer in America" by *Martindale-Hubbell*, NiaLena has also consistently received the highest professional rating for legal ability and ethical standards (AV) by *Martindale-Hubbell* as well as a Superb rating (10.0 out of 10) by *Avvo*. Referred to as "a woman at the top of her game" by Washington, D.C. "Super Lawyer", Mark Schamel, Esq., NiaLena has also been described by the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Philadelphia Daily News* as a "deliberate," "sincere," "extremely thorough," and "tireless advocate" with "courtroom poise" and by award-winning journalist and author George Anastasia in *The Last Gangster* as "no-nonsense." One client review posted on *Avvo* by a former CEO of his own company describes NiaLena as having "tamed the beast of a system that could have ended my life in prison... Every decision she made was dead on, skillfully crafting my case to a very positive outcome ... more than I ever hoped for."

NiaLena received her Juris Doctor from Boston University School of Law, along with several commencement awards. She is also a *cum laude* graduate with a B.S. in Economics from The Wharton School, where she has often returned in recent years as a guest speaker in "Leadership in the Business World" programs of the Management Department. Reviews by students have described NiaLena as having "an extremely interesting insight into law and business" and also that "the ethics of white collar criminal defense are intriguing and she communicates this in such an effective way."