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Nikos Buxeda advises clients on corporate, finance, and securities law transactions, including mergers and acquisitions, loan financing, debt issuances, private placements, project finance, and public-private partnerships.

He also advises clients on all aspects of doing business in Puerto Rico: business contracts, the organization of Puerto Rico mutual funds and private equity funds, and distribution agreements.

In addition to representing clients in Puerto Rico, Nikos frequently acts as New York counsel in international transactions, principally in Latin America.

LANGUAGES SPOKEN

- English
- Spanish

- Corporate
- Finance
- Debt Capital Markets
- Transport
- Projects, Energy and Infrastructure

- Financial Services
- Energy and Natural Resources

English Spanish

ENERGY SECTOR, INFRASTRUCTURE AND REAL ESTATE

P3

- Counsel to Canadian-American joint venture in successful proposal to enter into a \$1.6 billion, 15-year Operation and Maintenance Agreement with the Government of Puerto Rico to operate Puerto Rico's entire electric transmission and distribution system and in the transition to operation of the system
Finance
- Counsel to a Colombian power company in a \$50 million refinancing
- Counsel to the lender in a \$10 million refinancing of a Puerto Rico broadband provider
- Counsel to a power plant with respect to a US\$30 million secured working capital credit agreement
- Counsel to a consortium of international financial entities as the initial purchasers in a US\$435 million Rule 144A notes offering by a private highway operator, undertaken principally to partially refinance its existing senior debt facilities, and to the lenders in an additional US\$52 million credit facility to such operator

- Counsel to syndicated lenders with respect to a US\$850 million financing of a concession to operate two toll roads
- Counsel to a real estate investment company in defeasance of US\$54 million senior credit facilities

M&A

- Counsel to seller in drafting of transaction documents and legal negotiations in the US\$125 million sale of two operating solar PV plants, totalling 73.2 megawatts, as well as a dedicated operating and asset management team and other entities pursuing additional solar and battery energy storage in Puerto Rico
- Counsel to a Peruvian majority shareholder as the seller of a Peruvian company which operates natural gas pipelines, compressor plants and pumping stations
- Counsel to a Chinese solar energy company with respect to an option to acquire for US\$20 million a company developing a 20MW solar photovoltaic facility
- Corporate
- Counsel to issuer of LLC interests to partially fund luxury residential real estate development in Puerto Rico
- Counsel to a multinational conglomerate in connection with Puerto Rico aspects of the global restructuring of an oil and gas business, in preparation for the merger of such business with another oil and gas company
- Counsel to power plant shareholders in connection with the domestication of several Cayman Islands limited companies to Puerto Rico LLCs

DIVERSIFIED COMPANIES

Finance

- Counsel to staffing and outsourcing company in financing and refinancing credit facility for international operations
- Counsel to lending fund in financing and refinancing of billboard company credit facility
- Counsel to lenders to purchasers in the Puerto Rico aspects of the €2 billion acquisition of a 50 percent stake in a holding company that owns 11 asset management companies in Latin America and Europe
- Counsel to a publicly traded rental car company with respect to the Puerto Rico aspects of US\$190 million refinancing of revolving credit facilities
- Counsel to a private equity company in the Puerto Rico aspects of the US\$15 billion acquisition of a publicly traded rental car company and related securitization of vehicles

M&A

- Counsel to purchaser in \$13,300,000 acquisition of electronic medical records service provider
- Counsel to private fund joint venture partner in acquisition of \$110 million portfolio of warehouses
- Counsel to a foreign private equity fund in the US\$165 million acquisition of a 50 percent interest in a Colombian steel mill
- Counsel to a foreign private equity fund as minority shareholder of the purchaser in the acquisition of a Puerto Rico-based cement supplier and in the negotiation of a transition services agreement
- Counsel to a leading United States billboard company in the US\$42 million acquisition of a Puerto Rico billboard company
- Counsel to a publicly traded agricultural company in the US\$10 million acquisition of two Puerto Rico grain manufacturing companies
- Counsel to the seller in the US\$122 million sale of a dairy processing company
- Counsel to the majority shareholder in the sale of a Puerto Rico fitness chain
- Counsel to a private equity fund with respect to the US\$12 million acquisition of an indirect 40 percent interest in a billboard company
- Counsel to the seller in the US\$64 million sale of a self-storage business
- Counsel to Puerto Rico government entities in the US\$34.2 million acquisition of mental health facilities and related loan financing and refinancing by means of a municipal bond issue

Corporate

- Counsel to multiple multinational companies in connection with the negotiation of distribution agreements and the termination of distribution agreements

- Counsel to the sponsor of an international trampoline park company
- Counsel to a publicly traded multinational manufacturer of lamps, luminaires and lighting solutions with respect to the Puerto Rico corporate, regulatory and commercial law aspects of the carveout of its general lighting lamps business
- Counsel to multinational aviation company in negotiation of long-term lease, construction and employment incentive agreements and design-build agreement in connection with the US\$65 million construction of a 5-bay hangar at an airport and the commencement of maintenance, repair and overhaul operations therein

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Finance

- Counsel to a multinational bank with respect to Puerto Rico aspects of US\$750 million asset-based credit facilities made available to a publicly traded retail company as the borrower
- Counsel to a Puerto Rico bank in the US\$41 million acquisition of a small business loan portfolio and associated deposits

HEALTHCARE AND PHARMACEUTICAL

Finance

- Counsel to private equity fund in \$40 million financing to be used for the acquisition of healthcare facilities in Colombia
- Counsel to borrower/purchaser in acquisition financing and purchase of an electronic medical records provider
- Counsel to a US dialysis company in connection with Puerto Rico aspects of refinancing for purposes of dividend recapitalization
- Counsel to a pharmaceutical company with respect to amendments to US\$75 million senior credit facilities and provision of additional collateral
- Counsel to an electronic medical records company with respect to its US\$12 million senior credit facilities and amendments Corporate
- Counsel to the Chinese manufacturer of a COVID-19 test in connection with negotiation of agreement with US distributor for the approval and distribution of such test in the United States
- Counsel to the sponsor and principal shareholder of two ambulatory surgical centers
- Counsel to a publicly traded multinational pharmaceutical company with respect to the Puerto Rico corporate, regulatory and commercial law aspects of the spinoff of its bioscience business operations to a separate publicly held company
- Counsel to a publicly traded pharmaceutical company with respect to Puerto Rico corporate and commercial law aspects of the spinoff of its research based pharmaceuticals operations to a separate publicly held company

FUND FORMATION

- Counsel to of Puerto Rico investment company in connection with its registration under the Investment Company Act of 1940
- Counsel to the sponsor of three Puerto Rico-based opportunity zone funds
- Counsel to the sponsors and investment advisers of multiple Puerto Rico private equity funds
- Counsel to the sponsor of a non-traditional fixed income Puerto Rico investment company
- Counsel to the sponsor and investment adviser of a family office investment adviser and unregistered investment company
- Counsel to the Puerto Rico subsidiary of a European bank as sponsor of an open-end Puerto Rico investment company which invests primarily in United States municipal securities
- Counsel to the Puerto Rico subsidiary of a European bank as the sponsor of a short-term open-end Puerto Rico investment company
- Counsel to the Puerto Rico subsidiary of a European bank as the sponsor of a fixed income closed-end Puerto Rico investment company
- Counsel to the Puerto Rico subsidiary of a European bank as the sponsor of a multi-portfolio equity open-end Puerto Rico investment company

HOSPITALITY

Finance

- Counsel to the Puerto Rico subsidiary of a European bank with respect to a US\$13 million issuance of notes by an issuer to finance

the acquisition and remodeling of a hotel in Condado

- Counsel to the Puerto Rico subsidiary of a European bank with respect to the US\$166 million issuance of notes by an issuer to finance a hotel and resort
- Counsel to a Puerto Rico government entity with respect to a US\$25 million subordinated loan to partially finance construction of a hotel

Corporate

- Counsel to leading hotel management chain in connection with renegotiation of two hotel management contracts in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria
- Counsel to Condado-area hotel in connection with its leases and contracts with service providers
- Counsel to potential purchaser of Condado-area hotel

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Finance

- Counsel to a private equity fund with respect to a US\$76 million loan agreement for the refinancing of the credit facility used to acquire a local television station
- Counsel to a telecommunications company in a US\$25 million equity investment and US\$60 million bridge loan facility provided by European banks
- Counsel to a publicly traded media company in the refinancing of its US\$175 million senior credit facilities

M&A

- Counsel to a private equity fund in the US\$130 million acquisition of a local television station
- Counsel to the seller of a Puerto Rico regional television station
- Counsel to a leading United States billboard company in the US\$42 million acquisition of a Puerto Rico billboard company

INVESTMENT ADVISER REGULATION

- Counsel to multiple investment advisers who have relocated to Puerto Rico as a result of Acts 20/22

CAPITAL MARKETS

- Counsel to the United States subsidiary of a European bank as underwriter of a US\$557 million issuance of municipal securities by a Puerto Rico government issuer
- Counsel to a United States investment bank as underwriter of the US\$1.9 billion issuance of municipal securities by a Puerto Rico government issue
- Counsel to a European bank, as letter of credit bank, in a US\$130 million AFICA bond (industrial revenue bond) issuance by a Puerto Rico newspaper company
- Counsel to the Puerto Rico subsidiary of a European bank as the underwriter in a US\$153.8 million preferred stock issuance by a Puerto Rico bank holding company
- Counsel to the Puerto Rico subsidiary of a European bank as the managing underwriter in US\$189.6 million preferred stock issuance by a Puerto Rico bank holding company
- Counsel to the Puerto Rico subsidiary of a European bank as the distributor in up to US\$500 million Senior Debt Program of a Puerto Rico bank

CREDENTIALS

Admissions

- New York
- Puerto Rico

Recognitions

- *Chambers Global*
2022 - Band 2, Puerto Rico Corporate/Commercial
2018-21 - Band 2, Puerto Rico Corporate/Commercial
- *Chambers Latin America*
2017-22 - Band 2, Puerto Rico Corporate/Commercial
- *The Legal 500 Latin America*
2022 - Recommended, Puerto Rico Banking and Finance
2022 - Leading Lawyer, Puerto Rico Corporate and Commercial
2021 - Leading Lawyer, Puerto Rico Corporate and Commercial
2021 - Recommended, Puerto Rico Dispute Resolution and Bankruptcy
2021 - Recommended, Puerto Rico Government Contracting
2018-19 - Recommended, Latin America: International Firms Corporate and M&A

Nikos is recognized as a Leading Individual by the IFLR 1000, and as a Best Lawyer by US News & World Report.

Education

- J.D., Stanford Law School
- B.A., Harvard College
cum laude

Memberships

- Puerto Rico Bar Association

INSIGHTS

Publications

- "Funds take note: Puerto Rico's new Incentives Code is now in effect," August 19, 2019
- "Puerto Rico changes its business permitting process," July 22, 2019
- "Puerto Rico's Dealers Act: what every principal should know before selling products or services in Puerto Rico," May 2, 2018
- "Private equity and hedge funds in Puerto Rico – a welcoming environment in the Caribbean," March 14, 2018

NEWS

MEDIA MENTIONS

- "Bufete global de abogados planta bandera en Puerto Rico," *elnuevodia.com* (August 28, 2016)
- Interviewed, "Making the case for federal court intervention in Puerto Rico's debt crisis," *CARIBBEAN BUSINESS* (July 24, 2014)