



Miriam Figueroa

Partner

DEPUTY MANAGING PARTNER, SAN JUAN OFFICE

miriam.figueroa@dlapiper.com

San Juan

T: +1 787 945 9113

F: +1 939 697 6075

New York

T: +1 212 335 4500

F: +1 212 335 4501

Miriam Figueroa has extensive experience advising clients on infrastructure projects, public finance, public-private partnerships and administrative law. She has also advised government and private clients on energy related matters.

Miriam has actively participated in negotiating infrastructure, power purchase agreements and private operations contracts. She has also participated in multiple securities offerings representing issuers and underwriters and has advised private banks in commercial and real-estate based lending transactions. Miriam has advised government entities in a variety of novel transactions and financing structures, including public private partnerships in water utilities, renewable energy projects, maritime ports and airports.

Miriam had a key role in advising the Government of Puerto Rico in the process of creating the regulatory structure to implement in Puerto Rico the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, particularly new renewable energy related policy.

Miriam was also part of the multidisciplinary team participating in the financial and organizational restructuring of the Puerto Rico public electric utility. In that capacity, she had an active role in drafting and negotiating with lawmakers and other stakeholders key legislation to implement such restructuring.

Miriam also has advised clients in connection with processes before the Puerto Rico Energy Commission.

- Corporate
- Projects, Energy and Infrastructure

English Spanish

LANGUAGES SPOKEN

- English
- Spanish

- Negotiated the Regional Consortium Contracts for the management of the Capital Improvement Program of the Puerto Rico Aqueduct and Sewer Authority with national firms such as Malcolm Pirnie, CDM Caribbean, Black & Veatch, CSA Group and LG Scott
- Represented the Puerto Rico Tourism Development Fund in the structuring and financing of various tourism projects in Puerto Rico,

including the La Concha and Vanderbilt Hotels

- Advised and represented government clients in negotiating and administering the Contract for the Operation and Maintenance of the Water and Sewer System of the Puerto Rico Aqueduct and Sewer Authority with Ondeo de Puerto Rico (an affiliate of Suez S.A)
- Advised the Puerto Rico Infrastructure Financing Authority and the Government of Puerto Rico in the process of implementing the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, including drafting legislation, regulations, contracts and other mechanisms to define energy policy, ensure compliance with federal laws and regulations and ensuring the flow of funds and the implementation of the sponsored programs. After the conclusion and expiration of the ARRA programs, the Government of Puerto Rico initiated local programs to continue incentivizing renewable energy projects. Miriam advised and assisted the Energy Affairs Administration (the Energy Public Policy Office) in drafting new regulations and administrative procedures to create the Puerto Rico Green Energy Fund and subsequently to administer and implement the grants program.
- Advised the Government Development Bank for Puerto Rico in connection with the operational and financial restructuring of the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority and related processes before the Energy Commission and drafting and negotiating related legislation
- Advised the Puerto Rico Public Private Partnership and the Puerto Rico Ports Authority in connection with the evaluation of a potential privatization of mega yacht ports in the San Juan Bay
- Advises the Puerto Rico Aqueduct and Sewer Authority in connection with the design and implementation of its "Green PRASA Program" to integrate more environmentally friendly generation of energy to its operations, including using solar and biogas sources, negotiating those contracts and administering them
- Advises clients in Latin America in connection with energy and infrastructure projects, including negotiating power purchase agreements and evaluating such agreement in purchase transactions
- Advises Puerto Rico clients entering foreign markets in the area of business intelligence services
- Advises the Puerto Rico Public-Private Partnership in the procurement and negotiation process to award a thirty-years concession over 5 existing cruise piers and terminals and the rehabilitation and construction of 4 new piers in the San Juan Bay
- Advises the Puerto Rico Ports Authority in the procurement and negotiation of a contract to privatize nine regional airports, including two PART 139 airports regulated by the United States Federal Aviation Administration
- Advised the Puerto Rico Aqueduct and Sewer Authority, as issuer, in connection with the issuance of US\$1.37 billion of revenue refunding bonds, Series 2020A and federally taxable revenue refunding bonds and Series 2020B
- Advises LUMA Energy in connection with legal and regulatory matters before the Puerto Rico Energy Bureau and in other energy related matters

CREDENTIALS

Admissions

- Puerto Rico
- New York

Prior Experience

Prior to joining the firm, Miriam worked in the corporate department of a leading law firm in Puerto Rico and as general counsel and executive vice president of the Government Development Bank for Puerto Rico. Prior to working in the Government Development Bank for Puerto Rico, Miriam was an associate in a leading global firm, working out of its New York and Tokyo offices. She also served as law clerk to former Chief Justice of the Puerto Rico Supreme Court, José Andreu García.

Recognitions

- *Chambers Global*
2022 - Band 4, Puerto Rico Corporate/Commercial
2020-21 - Band 4, Puerto Rico Corporate/Commercial

- *Chambers Latin America*
2022 - Band 4, Puerto Rico Corporate/Commercial
2020-21 - Band 4, Puerto Rico Corporate/Commercial
- *The Legal 500 Latin America*
2022 - Leading Lawyer, Puerto Rico Energy, Natural Resources and Environment
2022 - Recommended, Puerto Rico Government Contracting
2021 - Recommended, Puerto Rico Corporate and Commercial
2021 - Leading Lawyer, Puerto Rico Energy, Natural Resources and Environment
2021 - Recommended, Puerto Rico Government Contracting
- Included in *The Best Lawyers in Puerto Rico 2020* for her work in administrative law and project finance and development
- Also recognized in *The Best Lawyers in Latin America 2020* for Administrative Law, Project Finance and Development Practice in Puerto Rico

Education

- LL.M., Harvard Law School
- J.D., Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico
summa cum laude
Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico Law Review, 1994-1995
- B.A., International Studies and Political Science, Macalester College
magna cum laude

Courts

- United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit

Memberships

- Puerto Rico Bar Association
- New York State Bar Association

INSIGHTS

Publications

Public-Private Partnerships in Puerto Rico

21 MAR 2017

For those considering participating in P3s in Puerto Rico, this handbook summarizes the applicable legal framework and discusses why Puerto Rico is a favorable jurisdiction for entering into P3s.

- Author, "Public-private partnerships in Puerto Rico: Key Points.," March 2017

Events

Previous

Women in Science and Technology Conference

29 October 2020 | 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. AST
Webinar

NEWS

DLA Piper lawyers and practices ranked in *Chambers Latin America 2022*

30 August 2021

DLA Piper today announced that the firm received 38 individual lawyer rankings and 15 firm rankings in the *Chambers Latin America 2022* guide.

MEDIA MENTIONS

- "Bufete global de abogadas planta bandera en Puerto Rico," *elnuevodia.com*, August 28, 2016
- Quoted, "Catch-22," *P3 Bulletin*, Volume 5, Issue 2

PRO BONO

Miriam provides legal assistance and general support to a foster home and adoption agency in Puerto Rico in their processes of coordinating and effecting adoptions in Puerto Rico. She is also member of the DLA Piper North America Pro Bono Steering Committee, local Diversity and Inclusion Committee and of the Global LAW Steering Committee.