

Humberto Sáenz-Marinero

San Salvador, El Salvador

+(503)2535-1888

hsaenz@novislegal.com

Personal Information

- Birth date: February 25, 1974
- Nationality: Salvadorian
- Address: Edificio Century Tower, nivel 5º B, Zona Rosa, San Salvador

Education

- JS.D. in private law at the Autonomous University of Barcelona, 2010 (Cum Laude);
- Master of Laws at the Autonomous University of Barcelona, 2009 (Cum Laude);
- Postgraduate in Business International Transactions of the Anahuac University of the South of Mexico, 2002;
- Master of Business Administration with specialization in finance at ISEADE-FEPADE in El Salvador, 2001 (Cum Laude);
- Graduated from University Dr. José Matías Delgado in El Salvador, 1997 (Cum Laude);

Professional Experience

- Since July 2020, he is partner of the firm Novis Estudio Legal
- He was partner of the firm Sáenz & Asociados from 1998 to July 2020.
- Has been an advisor to the National Association of Free Zones of El Salvador and the Association of Telecommunications Operators of El Salvador, having actively participated in the formulation and study of standards and laws related to referred sectors and with the protection of investments made by them.
- Has been directly involved with the formulation of important reforms to the Law of Free Zones and has participated directly in the elaboration of the new draft Law on Arbitration in El Salvador; both aimed at improving the investment climate in El Salvador.
- Has been an external legal consultant for FOMILENIO I (Millennium Challenge Corporation in El Salvador) since 2011 until its completion and is currently an external legal consultant for FOMILENIO II.
- As an advisor to FOMILENIO, he has participated in various Dispute Board Resolution panels in different construction contracts.
- Has been a consultant to the Multisectoral Investment Bank in the elaboration of conflict resolution methods for guarantee trusts.
- He has worked in the Legal Department of the National Fund for Housing as well as in the Legal Department of Banco Cuscatlán, S.A. in the field of judicial recovery and administration of a credit portfolio.
- He was the legal counsel of a telecommunication company named El Salvador Telecom (Saltel)
- Has been corporate consultant for several local and international companies. As a consultant, he has collaborated in the execution of significant transactions related to mergers and acquisitions. He also participated in international funding and financial restructuring.

Humberto Sáenz-Marinero

San Salvador, El Salvador

+(503)2535-1888

hsaenz@novislegal.com

Arbitral Experience

- Has participated as a counsel in more than 60 national and international arbitrations proceedings, both institutional and ad hoc, representing construction companies, industrial companies, financial institutions, government institutions and private individuals, on topics related to telecommunications, construction industry, banking, contracts for the provision of services, energy, electricity, cartography and satellite, safe services and industry. His arbitration practice has been developed in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, Mexico and the United States. In these cases it has been able to represent both investors and individuals, as well as public institutions.
- The arbitrations proceedings in which he has participated, were conducted under the rules of the American Arbitration Association (AAA), the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), the Center of arbitration of the Chamber of Commerce of Guatemala (CENAC), the Interamerican Arbitration Chamber of Commerce (IACAC), the National Chamber of Commerce of Mexico City (CANACO), the Conflict Resolution Commission of the Chamber of Industry of Guatemala (CRECIG), the Arbitration Center of the Chamber of Commerce of Panama (CeCAP) and the Mediation Center and Arbitration of the Chamber of Commerce of El Salvador (CMAES). He has also participated as a counsel in international ad-hoc arbitrations promoted in Nicaragua and Guatemala, representing national and foreign investors.
- He has been nominated as an arbitrator in more than 50 local and international arbitrations proceedings in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Costa Rica, Panamá, Perú, México and the United States. Some of the institutions where he has served as an arbitrator are: ICSID, ICC, AAA, LCIA, CENAC, CRECIG, CeCAP and CCEIES. He has been nominated as an arbitrator in UNCITRAL proceedings.
- Has advised on investment arbitration, investors and public institutions in El Salvador, Guatemala and Nicaragua.
- He has represented the State of El Salvador in 2 ICSID arbitration proceedings: a) ICSID case No. ARB / 09/12. Subject of the dispute: mining; and b) ICSID case No. ARB / 13/18. Matter of the dispute: electricity generation
- He is part of the list of emergency arbitrators of the Arbitration Center of the Construction Industry in Mexico. It also integrates the list of CRECIG arbitrators in Guatemala, CCIT in Honduras as well as CeCAP and CESCOT in Panama, CMCAES in El Salvador and AMCHAM in Perú.
- In 2022, he was incorporated into the list of investment arbitrators of the Beijing Arbitration Commission. That same year he was also incorporated by the European Commission as part of the list of professionals suitable for appointment as president of arbitration tribunals in commercial disputes under commercial agreements with third countries.
- Accredited to participate in investment arbitration before the Ministry of Foreign Trade (COMEX) in Costa Rica.
- Arbitrator appointed by the State of El Salvador (2014-2020) before the International Center for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID).
- Appointed as member of the ad-hoc committee in the Next Era vs Spain case.
- Has also had opportunity to participate in more than 20 international commercial arbitrations, which have required the defense of the interests of the Salvadoran State or public entities.
- He has participated as a trial lawyer in several dispute board processes in construction contracts concluded under FIDIC regulations. These contracts have been related to the construction of roads, border posts, schools, drainage systems, among others.

Humberto Sáenz-Marinero

San Salvador, El Salvador

+(503)2535-1888

hsaenz@novislegal.com

- He has also played the role of mediator and conciliator in important contractual differences at the corporate and corporate level, both in national and international forums. He has participated in conciliation processes in regional arbitration chambers as well as in the JAMS Resolution Center in Miami

Other Relevant Experience

- For 15 years, he was Professor of Commercial Law at the Dr. José Matías Delgado University, teaching "Companies", "Contracts" and "Commercial Procedures"
- He was a professor of the PhD program at the Autonomous University of Barcelona, teaching "Modern Contracts"
- He was Professor of Commercial Law at the Law School of the Higher School of Economics and Business (ESEN), teaching Commercial Law.
- He is a professor of the subject of arbitration at the Francisco Marroquín University in Guatemala and is a professor of the master's degree in international arbitration in the University. Subject: Investment Arbitration.

Publications

- "Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Awards in El Salvador ". Thesis which allow him to earn the JS.D from the Autonomous University of Barcelona, 2010.
- "Comments on the Amendments to the Law of Mediation, Conciliation and Arbitration of El Salvador". Dispute Resolution Journal, American Arbitration Association, May- October, 2010.
- "Sovereign Immunity Regarding Enforcement Against States and Government Institutions". Spain Arbitration Review, Nov. 2010.

Additional Information

- Former President of the Centre for Legal Studies in El Salvador
- Former President of the Salvadorian Chapter of the "Club Español del Arbitraje"
- Member of the Court of Arbitration of the ICC
- He was regional coordinator for Central America of the Young Arbitration Forum (YAF) of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)
- Member of the Latin American Arbitration Association (ALARB)
- Languages: Spanish and English

Awards

- Recognized in 2004 by the magazine "Latin Lawyer" as one of the 40 main Lawyers in Central America with age under 40 (40 under 40 in Central America).
- Included as prominent lawyer by Latin Lawyer in the years 2009 to 2024.
- Included by Who'sWho in the years 2016 to 2024 in the areas of "litigation " and "arbitration"
- Included by Chamber Global and Chamber Latin America in the years 2010 to 2024 in the areas of "General Business Law" and "Dispute Resolution"
- Included by Global Arbitration Review in the years 2022 to 2025