

Juan Manuel Suero, J.D., LL.D., LL.M.
Admitted to Practice Law in the Dominican Republic
Admitted to Practice as Foreign Legal Consultant in the State of New York

EXPERIENCE:

01/97 to Present **AARON, SUERO & PEDERSINI-** *Law Firm - Dominican Republic*
Attorney / Partner. International Law and Litigation Department.

07/95 - 01/97 **RUSSIN VECCHI & HEREDIA BONETTI, LLP** – *Dominican Republic*
Attorney / Associate. Labor Law and Litigation Department.

08/92 - 07/95 **PEREYRA & BIAGGI** – *Law Firm – Dominican Republic*
Attorney / Associate. Banking and Litigation Department.

04/92 **LOMÉ IV – ACP CONVENTION** – *Dominican Republic*
Chief of Protocol and attaché to former Haitian President, Jean Bertrand Aristide.

02/92 **INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (IDB)** – *Dominican Republic*
Attaché to the Minister of Finance of Belgium.

05/90-05/92 **UNIVERSIDAD IBEROAMERICANA (UNIBE)**
Research Assistant of Prof. Sonia Medina.

07/88 - 05/89 **CITIBANK, N.A.** - *Dominican Republic*
Paralegal. Securities Department.

05/87-05/88 **UNIVERSIDAD IBEROAMERICANA (UNIBE)**
Research Assistant for Professor Sonia Medina.

EDUCATION:

08/05 – 05/08 **STETSON UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE OF LAW** – *St. Petersburg, Fl., U.S.A.*
Juris Doctor (J.D.)

08/01 - 05/02 **STETSON UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE OF LAW** – *St. Petersburg, Fl., U.S.A.*
Master of International Law and Business (LL.M.).

09/94 - 05/96 **PONTIFICIA UNIVERSIDAD CATOLICA MADRE Y MAESTRA** - *Dominican Republic*
Master in Corporate Law.

05/87 - 08/93 **UNIVERSIDAD IBEROAMERICANA** - *Dominican Republic*
Doctorate of Laws (LL.D).

AWARDS:

08/01 - 05/02 **STETSON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW** –*St. Petersburg, Fl., USA.*
Dean's Tuition Scholarship.

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08/01 - 05/02 **TAMPA BAY AREA COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS** -Tampa, Fl., USA.
Mark Orr Foreign Affairs Fellow Scholarship.

REPRESENTATIVES CASES:

- 2019 Schreiber Foods vs. R.H.M., representation of Fortune 500 dairy company in a distribution litigation.
- 2018 Royal Bank of Canada vs. H.T., representation of foreign bank in a will and estate dispute.
- 2017 Owens vs. Reyes, representation of foreign citizen in appeal to vacate fraudulent divorce judgment.
- 2016 SUBWAY, representation of franchisor in trademark infringement.
- 2015 Planet Fitness, representation of franchisor in the negotiation of master franchise agreement.
- 2015 Orange Theory Fitness, representation of franchisor in the negotiation of master franchise agreement.
- 2014, Budget Rent-A-Car, representation of franchisor in the negotiation of master franchise agreement.
- 2013, IATA, representation of foreign association for relocation of business activities.
- 2012 SUBWAY, representation of franchisor in a national master franchise agreement negotiation.
- 2011 Sungard vs. UASD, representation of fortune 500 corporation in negotiation of settlement of multi-million breach of contract case against a Dominican university.
- 2010 Starwood Hotels, representation in the negotiation of The Westin Punta Cana Resort & Club, and The Sheraton Santo Domingo Hotel.
- 2009 Defendini v. Perez, Mineola, New York: participation as Expert Witness on Dominican Republic Divorce laws.
- 2009 Camarote v. AM Resorts Latin America, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: participation as Expert Witness on Dominican Republic Personal Injury statutes, Torts, and ATV statutes.
- 2009 Berman v. Berman, Fairfax, Virginia: participation as Expert Witness on Dominican Republic Divorce laws.
- 2009 Sutcliffe v. Tui U.K. Ltd, York, England: participation as Expert Witness on Dominican Republic Construction, Personal Injury, Hotel/Tourism, Standard of Care and Liabilities laws.
- 2009 Berman v. Berman, Wayne, Ohio: participation as Expert Witness on Dominican Republic Divorce laws.
- 2009 In re: AM Resorts Latin America, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: participation as Expert Witness on Dominican Republic Personal Injury, Tourism, Process of Service, Personal and Subject Matter Jurisdiction laws.
- 2008 Kurt v. Martinez, Miami, Florida: participation as Expert Witness on Dominican Republic Corporate, Divorce and Real Estate laws.

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- 2008 ***In Re: Estate of Baker*** *Orlando, Florida:* participation as Expert Witness on Dominican Republic Divorce and Immigration laws before a Probate Court.
- 2008 ***Reid v. MacCaba*** *Dublin, Ireland:* participation as Expert Witness on Dominican Republic Divorce and Immigration laws before the Family Court.
- 2008 ***Athukorala v. Zemialkowski*** *Boston, Massachusetts:* representation of an American citizen before Massachusetts and Dominican Courts in an international child abduction case.
- 2008 ***Royal Bank of Canada*** *Toronto, Canada:* representation on the probation and execution of a foreign will in the Dominican Republic.
- 2008 ***Brady v. Zell*** *Boston, Massachusetts:* participation as Expert Witness on Dominican Republic laws before the Family Court.
- 2008 ***In re: Martinair v. Punta Cana International Airport***, *Dominican Republic:* Expert Witness on Dominican Republic Aviation laws in connection to a commercial aircraft incident.
- 2007 ***Trader Vic's***, *Dominican Republic:* representation of AV rated Franchise lawyer in connection with execution of international franchising agreements in the Dominican Republic.
- 2007 ***In re: Ocean Jewel Casino Cruise Ship***, *Dominican Republic:* representation of buyers in a multi-million transaction of a casino and vessel.
- 2007 ***In re: Kerzner***, *Dominican Republic:* Expert Witness on Dominican laws to AV rated aviation law firm of Slack & Davis in connection to Dominican Republic laws related to a helicopter accident.
- 2006 ***New York Yankees***, *Dominican Republic:* representation of the major league baseball team in connection with application and conflict of American, Venezuelan and Dominican laws in a settlement.
- 2006 ***Cinnabon***, *Dominican Republic:* representation of AV rated law firm Nixon Peabody LLP in connection with execution of international franchising agreements in the Dominican Republic.
- 2006 ***FreemantleMedia Licensing Worldwide***, *Dominican Republic:* representation in connection with execution of several license agreements in the Dominican Republic.
- 2005 ***JP Morgan Chase v. Gehi Victoria I***, *Dominican Republic:* significant representation to seize a Philippine vessel located in Dominican territorial waters.
- 2004 ***Pinalito Hydroelectric Project***, *Dominican Republic:* representation of American and Brazilian corporations before the Dominican Government in a multilateral dam construction agreement.
- 2004 ***British Airways v. Infante***, *Dominican Republic:* representation of British and American corporations in a mediation of a commercial matter.
- 2004 ***Rio v. Rio*** *New York, New York:* participation as Expert Witness on Dominican Republic laws before the Family Court.

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- 2004 **Oldale v. Lara** *Dominican Republic*: representation of a Canadian citizen before Californian and Dominican Courts in an international child abduction case.
- 2004 **Fastenal** *Dominican Republic*: significant representation on Dominican Republic labor matters.
- 2003 **JP Morgan Chase Bank v. Abraham Gosman** *Miami, Florida*: participation as Expert Witness on Dominican Republic laws on a multi-billion federal bankruptcy case.
- 2003 **Lafar v. Comiresa** *Dominican Republic*: representation of a pharmaceutical industry from El Salvador in an agency dispute before the Dominican Civil Courts.
- 2003 **Almonte v. Shukin**, *British Columbia, Canada*: representation of a Canadian citizen before the Supreme Court of British Columbia and Dominican Courts in an international child abduction case.
- 2002 **Subway, Inc.** *Dominican Republic*: significant representation on legal regulations and breach of contracts of master franchise agreements in the Dominican Republic, Jamaica and the Caribbean.
- 2001 **American Airlines Flight AA587**, *Dallas, Texas*: representation of plaintiffs' attorneys on Dominican matrimonial and estate legal matters.
- 2001 **Moore v. Moore**, *Dublin, Ireland*: participation as Expert Witness on Dominican Republic laws before the Family Court of Appeals.
- 2001 **Kookai** *Paris, France*: significant representation on legal regulations to franchise agreements and online sales in the Dominican Republic.
- 2000 **Mentholatum Inc.** *Dominican Republic*: representation of a major Canadian pharmaceutical industry in a breach of contract and negotiation of a multimillion distribution agreement.
- 2000 **Lanning v. PepsiCo Intl.** *Miami, Florida*: participation as Expert Witness on Dominican Republic laws on a multi-million tort case before the 3rd District Court of Appeals.
- 1999 **Vista del Sol Resort** *Miami, Florida*: significant representation of a European-American consortium in a multimillion tourist real estate investment in the Dominican Republic.
- 1998 **Artofarma v. Aarsal** *Dominican Republic*: representation of the oldest and largest pharmaceutical industry of El Salvador in an agency dispute before an arbitration panel.
- 1997 **Samuel Rodriguez v. Sunshine Imports, Inc. et al** *Dominican Republic*: representation of foreign shareholders in a multimillion labor dispute before the Dominican Supreme Court of Justice.
- 1996 **SAP / Sociedad Industrial Dominicana** *Dominican Republic*: significant participation in the drafting of a multimillion software agreement for the largest Dominican food industry.
- 1996 **George Simmon v. Wartsila et al** *Dominican Republic*: representation of foreign corporations in a multi-million labor dispute before the Dominican Supreme Court of Justice.
- 1995 **Mora v. Mora** *Dominican Republic*: significant representation of the heirs of the former CEO of the largest Dominican poultry industry in a multi-million complex litigation before the Dominican Courts.

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- 1995 ***Empresas E. Elias v. Galapagos et al*** *Dominican Republic*: representation of the President of the Dominican Republic and investors in a complex litigation on a public bidding dispute.
- 1993 ***Frito Lay, Inc.*** *Dominican Republic*: significant participation in a multimillion investment for the acquisition of the largest Dominican snack food industry.

PROFESSIONAL INVOLVEMENT:

- 02/00 **TRINIDAD & TOBAGO MINISTER OF TRADE & INDUSTRY** *Dominican Republic*
Legal Advisor on Dominican Trade Barriers and CARICOM treaties.
- 09/99 **UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE - Washington, D.C., USA**
Member of Secretary of State's Advisory Committee on Private International law.
- 08/99 **AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION - Atlanta, USA**
Representative of the Dominican Bar Association.
- 01/99 **NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION - New York, USA**
Representative of the Dominican Bar Association.
- 08/98 -12/00 **DOMINICAN AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE** *Miami, FL., USA*
Legal advisor to the Board of Directors.
- 05/98 **DOMINICAN REPUBLIC CONSULATE** *Miami, FL., USA*
Legal advisor to the Dominican Consulate on Cuban-American affairs.
- 06/98 - 12/01 **COLEGIO de ABOGADOS de la REPUBLICA DOMINICANA** *Dominican Republic*
Director of Foreign Affairs and liaison to the American Bar Association.
- 01/97 - 12/97 **UNIVERSIDAD APEC - Dominican Republic**
Law Professor (Labor Law).
- 05/96 **JUNTA CENTRAL ELECTORAL (JCE)** *Dominican Republic*
Judge of an electoral table for the 1996 Dominican Presidential Elections.
- 09/95 **DOMINICAN REPUBLIC SENATE**
Member of the Commission appointed by the Senate of the Dominican Republic to amend Article 11 of the Dominican Republic Constitution to create the dual citizenship.
- 07/93 **INTERNATIONAL REPUBLICAN INSTITUTE** *Dominican Republic*
Selected for an exclusive seminar for young political leaders of the Dominican Republic.

INTERVIEWS AND PRESENTATIONS:

- 2018 **HUNTING HOUSES... IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**, *New York, U.S.A.*
Interviewed by Vivian Marino of The New York Times.

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- 2011 **INTERNATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION (IBA)**, *Dubai, United Arab Emirates*
Speaker on "How Commercial Agency Laws Impact Franchise Relationships"
- 2010 **THE WORLD JUSTICE PROJECT: RULE OF LAW INDEX**, Contributor for the
Dominican Republic Chapter.
- 2010 **MOTHER JONES MAGAZINE**, *San Francisco, USA*
Interviewed by Nick Baumann, in connection to the validity of Richard Berman
(Dr. Evil) Dominican divorce.
- 2009 **ISTOÉ INDEPENDENTE REVISTA (Magazine)** *Brazil*
Interviewed and cited in the Article: "O paraíso dos divórcios: Na República Dominicana,
casais do mundo inteiro se separam em apenas cinco minutos" (The paradise of divorces:
In the Dominican Republic, couples from around the world fall apart in just five minutes)
- 2003 **LISTIN DIARIO NEWSPAPER** *Dominican Republic*
Interviewed on legal aspects of the American Airlines flight AA587 accident.
- 2002 **COLOR VISION (CHANNEL 9)** *Dominican Republic*
Exclusive interview on legal aspects of the American Airlines flight AA587 accident.
- 2002 **STETSON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW** *Saint Petersburg, Florida*
Lecturer on International Law, International Criminal Law and Latin American Law.
- 2002 **UNIVERSITY OF TAMPA** *Tampa, Florida, USA*
Speaker on Doing Business in Dominican Republic.
- 2000 **ST. PETERSBURG TIMES** *Saint Petersburg, Florida, USA*
Interview by the Saint Petersburg Times on Dominican Divorces.
- 1999 **CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL LEGAL STUDIES (CILS)** *Colorado, USA*
Guest Speaker in Representation of the Dominican Bar Association. Topic: Execution of
Agency, Distribution and International Sales Agreements in the Dominican Republic.
- 1998 **COLEGIO DE ABOGADOS DE REPUBLICA DOMINICANA**
Guest Speaker on e-commerce in the Dominican Republic.

PUBLICATIONS:

- 2016-19 **FAMILY LAW. A GLOBAL GUIDE FROM PRACTICAL LAW**, 3rd Edition, *London, UK*
Contributor for the Dominican Republic Chapter, published by Thomson Reuters.
- 2016-19 **INTERNATIONAL RELOCATION OF CHILDREN GLOBAL PROJECT**, 1st Edition, *London, U.K.*
Contributor for the Dominican Republic Chapter, published by Thomson Reuters.
- 2016-19 **PRIVATE CLIENT LAW: A GLOBAL GUIDE FROM PRACTICAL LAW**, 1st Edition, *London, U.K.*
Contributor for the Dominican Republic Chapter, published by Thomson Reuters.
- 2013 **FAMILY LAW JURISDICTIONAL COMPARISONS**, 2nd Edition, *London, UK*
Contributor for the Dominican Republic Chapter, published by Thomson Reuters.

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- 2012 **FAMILY LAW JURISDICTIONAL COMPARISONS**, 1st Edition, *London, UK*
Contributor for the Dominican Republic Chapter, published by Thomson Reuters.
- 2012 **WOMEN, BUSINESS AND THE LAW: CREATING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY FOR WOMEN AROUND THE WORLD**, Contributor for the Dominican Republic Chapter, published by The World Bank Group.
- 2013 **THE WORLD BANK**
Collaborator *"Doing Business in 2013: Smarter Regulations for Small and Medium Size Enterprises"*
Dominican Republic Chapter
- 2013 **THE WORLD BANK**
Collaborator *"Women, Business and the Law 2013: Removing Barriers to Economic Inclusion"*
- 2013 **FAMILY LAW Jurisdictional Comparisons**, Second Edition. Thomson Reuters, U.K.
Collaborator on the Dominican Republic Family Law Chapter.
- 2011 **FAMILY LAW Jurisdictional Comparisons**, First Edition. Thomson Reuters, U.K.
Collaborator on the Dominican Republic Family Law Chapter.
- 2011 **INTERNATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION (IBA)**
Collaborator *"How Commercial Agency Laws Impact Franchise Relationships"*
- 2011 **THE WORLD BANK**
Collaborator *"Women, Business and the Law. Creating Economic Opportunities for Women"*
- 2010 **WORLD JUSTICE PROJECT (AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION)**
Co-Participant as Expert on Dominican Republic Constitutional, Civil Rights and Criminal Law System.
"The Rule of Law Index Report 2010".
- 2009 **WORLD JUSTICE PROJECT (AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION)**
Collaborator as Expert on Dominican Republic Judicial System. *"The Rule of Law Index Report 2009"*.
- 2008 **AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION**
The International Lawyer. *"Legal Developments in the Dominican Republic in Review: 2008"*.
- 2007 **THE WORLD BANK**
"Doing Business in 2007: How to Reform. Bankruptcy in the Dominican Republic"
- 2006 **NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY SHEPARD BROAD LAW CENTER**
"The Manual of International and Foreign Citation" (*"The International Citator"* or *"The Greenbook"* 3rd Edition)
Collaborator on Dominican legal citations.
- 2005 **UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS**
"The Role of Law and Lawyers in the Environmental Justice Movement"

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- 2005 **THE WORLD BANK**
"Doing Business in 2006: Creating Jobs. Property Rights in the Dominican Republic"
- 2005 **THE WORLD BANK**
"Doing Business in 2006: Creating Jobs. Regulation of Business Entry in the Dominican Republic"
- 2005 **THE WORLD BANK**
"Doing Business in 2006: Creating Jobs. Starting a Business in the Dominican Republic"
- 2005 **AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION**
The International Lawyer. *"Legal Developments in the Dominican Republic in Review: 2004"*.
- 2004 **AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION**
The International Lawyer. *"Legal Developments in the Dominican Republic in Review: 2003"*.
- 2004 **THE WORLD BANK**
"The World Bank, Private Sector Advisory Services, Dominican Republic Labor Laws ".
- 2004 **INTERNATIONAL FRANCHISE ASSOCIATION**
Annual Legal Symposium. The Dominican Republic *"Update on Franchise Law"*.
- 2003 **THE WORLD BANK**
"The World Bank, Investment Climate Department, Dominican Republic Incorporation Guidelines".
- 2003 **THE WORLD BANK**
"The World Bank, Doing Business in 2004: Understanding Regulation. Regulation of Business Entry in Dominican Republic".
- 1996 **UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (USAID)**
"Justice Sector Reform in the Dominican Republic: A Stakeholder Analysis".

LANGUAGES:

Fluent in English and Spanish. Working knowledge of French, Italian and Portuguese.

BAR ADMISSIONS:

COLEGIO DE ABOGADOS DE REPUBLICA DOMINICANA - Dominican Republic

COLEGIO DOMINICANO DE NOTARIOS - Dominican Republic

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

- 2005-2006 **TAMPA BAY RAYS** Saint Petersburg, Florida
Major League Baseball (MLB) Community and Hispanic Programs.