

Shook gains practice head from Jones Day

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Carlos Concepción is leaving Jones Day in Miami to join Shook Hardy & Bacon as partner and chair of its global arbitration practice.

Concepción, a US national with Cuban heritage, will join Shook's Miami office on 5 November after more than three years with Jones Day. His practice covers international litigation and arbitration, with a particular focus on South and Central America and the Caribbean and cases conducted in both Spanish and English.

In the area of investment arbitration, Concepción has acted and will continue to act for Puerto Rican company Omega Engineering and its CEO in a US\$100 million ICSID case against Panama. The investors allege they were wrongly targeted as part of criminal proceedings brought

against a former president of the country. The case is yet to reach a hearing on the merits.

Concepción has also recently acted in a US\$500 million ICC dispute between the two controlling shareholders of a vitamin and herbal supplements company with operations in Latin America and the US. The arbitration had hearings in New York and Mexico City before settling earlier this year.

Concepción began his career as a lawyer at Hughes Hubbard & Reed in Miami and New York from 1983 to 1995. He then co-founded Concepción Martínez & Puente, where he was managing partner for 20 years before joining Jones Day in 2015.

He is the incoming chair of the Miami International Arbitration Society and a member of the ICC International Court of Arbitration and the CPR Institute.

Concepción says, “I’m excited to chair and develop Shook’s global arbitration practice group with their impressive client base and the personal and professional relationships that I’ve developed throughout Latin America and Europe during the last three decades. Shook’s reputation as an elite trial and disputes firm, together with their commitment to expanding this practice area... attracted me to this tremendous firm.”

Shook litigation and arbitration partner **John Barkett**, who is also based in Miami, says, “Carlos is, plainly and simply, a great lawyer. Shook’s international dispute resolution team looks forward very much to the benefit of his leadership and rich arbitration experience both commercially and in investor-state disputes.”

In August, Shook hired multilingual of counsel **Ricardo Ampudia** for its Miami office. An Ecuadorean-US national, Ampudia will be part of the team acting for Omega in its ICSID claim. The firm also has as a consultant Marike Paulsson, director of the International Arbitration Institute at Miami University School of Law.

Gregory Shumaker, Jones Day’s global disputes practice leader says of Concepción’s move: “We wish him well in his new endeavours.”