

Shook hires of counsel in Miami

Cosmo Sanderson
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Giovanni Angles

Shook Hardy & Bacon has continued building its international arbitration practice in Miami with the hire of **Giovanni Angles**, who has worked on a number of Latin American investment disputes.

Angles, a US national of Cuban descent, joined Shook on 9 January as of counsel, after five years as an associate in the Miami office of Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner.

A fluent Spanish speaker, Angles is Shook's third Miami hire in a year. In November, **Carlos Concepción**, the firm's new head of international arbitration, joined from Jones Day. **Ricardo Ampudia** joined as of counsel from Weil Gotshal & Manges in August.

While at Bryan Cave, Angles defended the Dominican Republic in a Miami-seated investment treaty claim brought by Panama-registered Silverton Finance. The claimant withdrew the claim in 2017, saying that conducting the arbitration in two languages would be financially unviable.

He was also part of the team that helped Barbadian trust manager Blue Bank bring a US\$400 million ICSID claim against Venezuela over the expropriation of tourism assets. The tribunal declined jurisdiction in 2017, a decision Blue Bank is now seeking to annul.

He also represented a family of investors bringing pending ICSID and UNCITRAL claims against Colombia over the nationalisation of a bank during the country's 1990s financial crisis.

Additionally, Angles acts in commercial disputes and has represented Panamanian and US parties in ICDR arbitrations concerning the tech industry.

He began his career at US telecoms company AT&T, where he spent a decade before obtaining his JD from Notre Dame Law School. He interned at Winston & Strawn in Chicago, where he became associate in 2011 and stayed for three years before moving to Bryan Cave. The firm merged with Berwin Leighton Paisner last year.

He is admitted in Florida district courts and the Northern District of Illinois.

Concepción says when he met Angles “it was clear that his experience in international litigation and arbitration would be a good match for our growing team and our clients.”

Angles says he is looking forward to “collaborating with Carlos and this team of experienced arbitration attorneys.”

Pedro Martinez-Fraga, Bryan Cave’s co-head of international arbitration based in Miami, says Angles is “a fine young lawyer who worked with our team on ICSID, ICC, ICDR, and UNCITRAL matters and who will be missed.”