

Litigation & Conflict Resolution in Colombia

Vargas & Vargas Abogados is a recognised law firm, established in Bogotá D.C., with representation in London, UK, where it is a member of the British-Colombian Lawyers Association. The firm specialises in litigation, alternative dispute resolution, advice and consultancy in areas such as, criminal law, business criminal law, human rights, civil, corporate and labour law, hydrocarbons, mining and insurance regulation, foreign investment, government contracting, among others.

When managing each one of its cases, confidentiality, responsibility and professionalism, as well as using the appropriate techniques, has allowed the firm to practise with success in the prevention and resolution of conflicts. The experience and youth of the team at Vargas & Vargas has allowed it to tackle new areas of law and given it a reputation for breaking new ground in Colombia and abroad. The firm and each of its lawyers have been recognised for their high level of professionalism, skill and commitment when handling each and every case.

One of the firm's most important practices is the proposition of a negotiated agreement, along with instances when it is not viable, whether it is for companies, organisations or persons, national or foreign.

Luis Fernando Vargas Rodríguez, Vargas & Vargas partner and director, noted: "We outline strategies directed to protect our clients' interests by analysing the legal reality of a dispute, thus determining the possibilities and probabilities of a possible litigation. Likewise, a consultancy gives us an overview of every client or business, allowing us to act before the possible controversy."

Luis Fernando Vargas Rodriguez works in the litigation area of Vargas & Vargas. He is a legal adviser with broad expertise in criminal, civil and corporate law, and has represented many companies in important litigations in these areas. He graduated in legal structuring and direction of oil industry projects.

Mr Vargas is part of the defence team of a business group against the Venezuelan State before international bodies in the matter of human rights. He is also a member of the British-Colombian Lawyers Association and the Rosario Attorney College, and an international observer in legal processes for the International Bar Association-Human Rights Institute and the British-Colombian Lawyers Association.

He commented: "The largest institution dedicated to dispute resolution is the judicial branch. This branch, through its judges, has the task of resolving disputes and conflicts among individuals, individuals and government, and among governmental institutions. This means that judges in different jurisdictions have an obligation to define cases that are brought to their attention. There are also other institutions that specialise in alternative dispute resolution, such as Commerce Chambers, which do arbitration, mediation and negotiation."

Moreover, in recent years, oral litigation has been implemented in criminal, civil, administrative and labour cases, providing clients with the principles of immediation and concentration. New regulations have also been introduced in Vargas & Vargas' active jurisdictions, obligating judges to give rulings in shorter time periods. Mr Vargas added that this is to speed up processes, and was brought about because of existing judicial congestion.

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