Pérez-Llorca



Rafael Fuentes Cataño

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Practices and Sectors

- AML, Anti-corruption and Compliance

Profile

Rafael has broad experience in regulatory consulting, strategic legal protection, and litigation, focusing on highly regulated sectors such as the financial sector (banking, brokerage firms and reinsurance institutions), road infrastructure, telecommunications, among others.

Studies:

- Master's degree in Economic Law, Universidad Panamericana, Mexico City
- Law degree (J.D. equivalent), Escuela Libre de Derecho, Mexico City

His working languages are Spanish and English.

Experience

Rafael's solid experience in regulatory matters and administrative litigation as external counsel to companies has allowed him to focus his career on an important range of activities. Among other topics, he has provided regulatory advice to domestic and foreign investment funds in infrastructure projects with complex components that implied a relevant reputational risk for the client.

He has provided regulatory and litigation advice before regulators on brokerage firms' capitalization issues, as well as the litigation defense of the parametric risk weighting model of a multiple banking institution challenged by the Mexican regulator until culminating favorably before the Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation.

Likewise, Rafael was part of the team that obtained a favorable ruling for a telecommunications concessionaire, resolving the general unconstitutionality of the Mexican Telecommunications Law that established disproportionate fines based on annual gross revenues.

Advised COFECE, Mexico's federal competition regulator, as an autonomous constitutional body, in the legal strategy against limitations on the remuneration of public servants below the salary of the President of the Republic. He has also advised a foreign reinsurance institution before the regulator in order to obtain the corresponding annual authorization.

Finally, he has participated in multiple M&A transactions, from a regulatory perspective. Among which stand out the joint venture between Banorte and Rappi in Mexico (2020), the acquisition of Arcus Fi by Mastercard, among other issues, to consolidate its SPEI operation in Mexico (2021) and the acquisition of NP Energía La Lucha by Saavi Energía, in Mexico (2024).

Previous positions – Assistant to Secretary specialized in Criminal Matters of the First Chamber, Mexican Supreme Court of Justice, Professional Internship, Mexico City, Mexico (2011-2013)

Academic and Publishing collaborations

Rafael has taught Human Rights and Administrative Law at Universidad La Salle and lectured in relation to Sanctioning Procedures at ITESM in Mexico City. Additionally, he has contributed to the following publications:

- National Banking and Securities Commission (Mexico), Regulators 2022, published by Latin Lawyer
- Anti-Corruption Guide 2021, Mexico Chapter, published by Chambers and Partners
- National Banking and Securities Commission Regulation, Latin Lawyer Regulators Series 2020, published by Latin lawyer
- Anti-Corruption Guide 2019, Mexico Chapter, published by Chambers and Partners

Recognition

- Leaders League 2026: Compliance (Excellent), Innovation, technology & Telecoms (Excellent)
- Latin Lawyer 250 (2027): TMT
- Best Lawyers: Media and Broadcasting Law (Since 2024)