



## Luis A. Perez

Chair, Latin America and the Caribbean Practice  
Co-Office Managing Partner

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vCard

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” Luis is recognized for having a deep understanding of the legal systems in Latin America and for being one of the most outstanding lawyers in this region.

- *University of Miami School of Law*

### Areas of Experience

Litigation  
Commercial Disputes  
Product Liability and Mass Torts  
Economic Sanctions and Export Controls  
International Litigation and Arbitration  
Latin America and the Caribbean  
Hospitality Dispute Resolution  
International Trade and Customs  
International

### Education

J.D., Loyola University New Orleans College of Law, 1981  
B.B.A., Loyola University, New Orleans, 1978, (Finance), cum laude

### Admissions

#### Bars

District of Columbia  
Louisiana  
Florida  
New York  
Texas

#### Courts

U.S. Supreme Court  
Florida Supreme Court  
U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit  
U.S. Court of Appeals, District of Columbia  
U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida  
U.S. District Court, Northern District of Florida  
U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit  
U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida  
U.S. Court of Federal Claims  
U.S. Court of International Trade  
U.S. District Court, Middle District of Louisiana  
U.S. District Court, Northern District of Louisiana  
U.S. District Court, Southern District of Louisiana

Para descargar la biografía en español haga click aquí.

Luis A. Perez is the chair of Akerman’s Latin America and the Caribbean Practice, an internationally recognized team providing legal counsel across multiple disciplines. He focuses his practice on dispute resolution and handles commercial litigation and arbitration across the United States and Latin America for clients in various sectors, including manufacturing, defense contracting, energy, technology, financial services, and medical devices. He also serves as co-managing partner of Akerman’s Miami office.

Ranked by *Chambers Global*, which notes his “deep understanding of legal systems and culture,” Luis represents companies in commercial disputes throughout Latin America. He has coordinated and directed the prosecution and defense of hundreds of cases across the region involving individual civil actions, criminal actions, administrative claims, governmental investigations, and class actions. Luis’ practice focuses on complex commercial disputes including claims for product liability and breach of contract.

Luis has been listed as one of Latin America's Top 100 Lawyers by *Latinvex*, named by *Chambers Global* among the "Leaders in their Field" for International Arbitration (Latin America-wide), and serves as chair of the firm's annual ALM-Akerman U.S. Latin America Summit.

### Notable Work

**Opposing Application for Discovery Under 28 U.S.C. § 1782:** Secured a major victory for our client, a Chilean company, that sold its interest to a Chinese company for \$1 billion. The purchaser of the company filed various actions in different jurisdictions claiming that the seller defrauded the buyer by overstating the value of the company. The purchaser was trying to undo the sale claiming fraud and improper administration, amongst other allegations. Therefore, the purchaser filed a § 1782 application to seek discovery in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida to seek discovery from our client related to the sale. We intervened in the action and successfully opposed the application.

**UNCITRAL Arbitration:** Representation of a U.S. investor in an investment arbitration arising out of the violation of rights to oil drilling and extraction operations, and other related violations to the United States-Peru Trade Promotion Agreement (UNCITRAL/PCA; Seat: Paris).

**Arbitration:** Represented a renewable energy company against a sovereign in connection with the concession and construction of a windfarm in the Dominican Republic. The project failed resulting in an arbitration filed before ICSID (International Center for Settlement of Investment Disputes), in Washington D.C., part of the World Bank. The amount at stake surpasses \$100 million.

**Expert Witness:** Testified as an expert witness in an international arbitration at the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) in March 2022 on the applicability of an arbitration clause in a private contract.

**Raytheon Arbitration:** Represented the German subsidiary of a Fortune 100 defense contractor in a \$155 million arbitration administered by the ICC, venued in Madrid, Spain against a sovereign government agency with respect to a contract for the repair of two submarines. After a favorable decision, the ruling was challenged in Spanish courts, which affirmed the result and awarded fees to our client.

**Thrombotargets Arbitration:** Represented a Barcelona-based pharmaceutical research and development company in its claim against a United States drug manufacturer for its failure to comply with contractual obligations and performing below industry standards. The dispute was administered by the ICC and the final hearing was held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The hearing ended in a significant multimillion dollar victory for the client. The arbitrator granted all damages sought, plus pre-judgment interest, lawyers' fees, and costs, and dismissed a counterclaim in its entirety.

**28 USC § 1782 Dispute:** Represented client in enforcing a discovery request under 28 USC § 1782 to gain access to evidence for use in a foreign international proceeding.

**Codisa Arbitration:** Represented an international software company in an arbitration against a US based Fortune 100 company before the

Louisiana Court of Appeals  
Louisiana Supreme Court

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### Languages

Portuguese  
French  
Spanish

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### Related Content

Akerman Ranked Among the Best By *Chambers Global* Yet Again  
February 25, 2025

Four Akerman Office Managing Partners Named to Power Leaders List  
February 03, 2025

*Legal 500* Ranks Akerman as a Top Tier Firm in Latin America 2025 Guide  
October 30, 2024

International Centre for Dispute Resolution (ICDR) arbitration. This arbitration was held in Miami, Florida.

**United Brands Litigation:** Represented the distributor of Diageo liquor products in the Dominican Republic regarding the improper termination of the distributorship agreement. The matter involved various millions of dollars and resulted in a favorable verdict before a jury in the Miami-Dade County Civil Court.

**Philip Morris:** Represented a global tobacco company in various proceedings in Latin America and directed the defense of all cases pending in the region.

**El Baul:** Represented a Guatemala-based sugar mill in a breach of contract, product liability claim against a US company. The dispute took the form of an arbitration before the AAA/ICDR.

**Tecnal:** Represented a Chilean international manufacturer of aluminum and glass covering for high-rise buildings in a contractual, product liability, dispute against a Fortune 100 US Company. The dispute was prosecuted in Federal Court in Cleveland, Ohio.

## Published Work and Lectures

- *Mealey's International Arbitration Report*, Featured Comments, "International Arbitration Experts Discuss the Standards of Review and Disclosure Rules for Arbitrators," July 2024
- *Law360*, Co-Author, "Ecuador Ruling Marks Significant Step For Arbitral Certainty," June 26, 2024
- International Bar Association, Litigation Committee Newsletter, Co-Author, "Resolution of International Commercial Disputes in Times of War: Considerations for Minimizing Risks," April 4, 2024
- *Mealey's International Arbitration Report*, Featured Comments, "What Do You Believe Will Be the Major Challenges for Arbitration in 2024?" March 2024
- *Mealey's*, Author, "Impact of AI on International Arbitration," 2023
- *Mealey's International Arbitration Report*, International Arbitration Experts Discuss, Featured Comments, "The Major Challenges for Arbitration in 2023," February 2023
- *Mealey's International Arbitration Report*, Public Perception of Intl. Arbitration, Featured Comments, "Do You Believe That More Transparency Could Improve Public Perception of International Arbitration?" 2023
- *Mealey's International Arbitration Report*, Public Perception of Intl. Arbitration, Featured Comments, "What Do You Believe Will Be the Major Challenges for Arbitration in 2023?" 2023
- *Mealey's International Arbitration Report*, International Arbitration Experts Discuss, Featured Comments, "Transparency On Public Perception," December 2022
- *SWI swissinfo.ch*, Contributor, "El controvertido embargo de EEUU a Cuba cumple seis décadas," February 3, 2022
- University of Miami Law School, Lecturer, "Dispute Resolution and Arbitration," 2020
- *Law360*, Co-Author, "Tackling Uncertainty In Pandemic-Related Int'l Disputes," March 27, 2020
- Co-Author, article on Appeal of Arbitration Awards, 2016
- *Daily Business Review*, Co-Author, "A New International Option: The 'Emergency Arbitrator,'" September 2014

- Interlaw 2014 Annual Global Meeting, Presenter, “Early Determination of Issues in an International Arbitration Proceeding,” Miami, September 9, 2014
- *Daily Business Review*, Co-Author, “New Arbitration Rules on Emergency Arbitration,” September 2014
- *ALM Focus Latin America*, Co-Author, “Can Venezuela Overcome Its Challenges?” June 2014

## Affiliations

- American Bar Association, Member
- Inter-American Bar Association, Member
- Florida Bar Association, Member
- District of Columbia Bar, Member
- Dade County Bar Association, Member
- Hispanic National Bar Association, Member
- Hispanic Lawyers Association of Louisiana, Inc., Past President, 1994-1999; Member

## Honors and Distinctions

- University of Miami Inter-American Law Review (IALR), 2024, Honored as “The Lawyer of the Americas”
- *South Florida Business Journal*, 2024, Listed as a “Power Leader” in South Florida
- *Lawdragon* 500, 2023-2024, 2021, Listed as a Leading Global Litigator
- *Best Lawyers*, 2019-2025, Listed in Florida for Arbitration and International Arbitration – Commercial
- *Chambers Latin America*, 2013-2014, 2017-2025, Ranked for International Arbitration
- *Chambers Global*, 2017-2018, 2020-2022, 2024-2025, Ranked in Arbitration (International) for Latin America International Counsel and in International Arbitration (USA) as a Foreign Expert for Latin America-wide
- *Chambers USA*, 2021-2022, Ranked Nationwide for International Arbitration: Enforcement
- *The Legal 500*, 2022-2023, Recommended for International Firms: City Focus - Miami
- *Florida Trend's* Legal Elite, 2023, Listed as a “Notable Managing Partner”
- Marquis, 2023, “Who’s Who in America” List
- *Latinvex*, 2015, Listed as one of Latin America’s Top 100 Lawyers
- Admitted as Arbitrator, United States Council for International Business
- *Chambers Global*, 2014, Recognized as a “Leaders in their Field” for International Arbitration (Latin America-wide)
- *Super Lawyers* Magazine, 2014-2018, Listed in Florida for International
- *Chambers Global*, 2013, Ranked for International Arbitration
- *Daily Business Review*, 2014, Most Effective Lawyer in Arbitration, Winner
- *Daily Business Review*, 2013, Most Effective Lawyer in Arbitration and Mediation, Winner
- Republican Gold Medal Award Recipient, 2003

- City of New Orleans, 1998, Selected as “Outstanding Hispanic Professional”
- City of New Orleans, 1989, Awarded Certificate of Merit by the Mayor
- City of New Orleans, 1989, Selected as “Outstanding Hispanic Professional”