Doing Business in the Caribbean: A Primer

Pre-Meeting Module for the
ABA Section of International Law Fall Conference
October 20-23, 2017
The Condado Plaza Hilton, San Juan, Puerto Rico

www.ambar.org/SanJuan
Updated as of 7/14/2017

PROGRAM BROCHURE

All programs to be held at Condado Plaza Hotel
999 Ashford Avenue, San Juan, Puerto Rico

2017 Fall Conference
Pre-Module Planning Committee

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### Meeting Program

**Friday, October 20, 2017**

**6:00 PM – 7:30 PM**  
Welcome Reception - *Supreme Court*

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**Saturday, October 21, 2017**

**8:00 AM – 9:00 AM**  
Continental Breakfast

**9:00 AM – 10:00 AM**  
Welcome and Overview of Unique Issues to Doing Business in the Caribbean  
*Speaker: Honorable Ricardo Roselló Nevares, Governor of Puerto Rico*

**10:00 AM – 12:30 PM** Interactive Roundtables – Registrant participation is essential. Moderators will facilitate discussions but attendees should come prepared with questions and comments

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<th><strong>Evolving Energy Issues in the Caribbean Basin</strong></th>
<th><strong>Hospitality Law in the Greater Caribbean Basin</strong></th>
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| The global energy sector is moving towards development of renewable energy sources and becoming less dependent on traditional energy. The Caribbean, which is heavily dependent on fossil fuels, is a key location for wind, solar and geothermal energy. The major obstacles in developing these sources of energy in the current and in the past has been the issue of financing, the ability to recuperate investments and lack of government transparency. Institutions like the Inter-American Development Bank and Caribbean Development Bank have begun financing projects in the Caribbean but not enough to reduce the high cost of energy in the region. Puerto Rico has been a hotbed for solar energy development until its recent financial crisis. Last year, the U.S. passed the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management and Economic Stability Act or PROMESA which, among other things, establishes the Energy Commission of Puerto Rico that will identify critical energy projects, develop a project report and assist in the development of projects. This panel will discuss the impacts of PROMESA in Puerto Rico, financing opportunities for energy projects in the Caribbean, development of laws for public private partnerships and regulations affecting the energy sector.  
*Moderator: Fabian Pal, P.A., Miami, FL* | The lifeblood of the Caribbean's economy is largely the Hospitality industry. Join us for an informative discussion on the legal ramifications of the recent Zika scare; disputes between developers, owners and operators of hotels in the Caribbean and elsewhere; and other issues related to hospitality.  
*Moderator: Charles Engeman, Ogletree Deakins, St. Thomas, VI* |

**12:45 PM – 2:00 PM** LUNCHEON – Keynote Speaker: *Honorable Manuel Laboy Rivera, Secretary of Economic Development and Commerce of Puerto Rico*

**2:30 PM – 5:00 PM** Interactive Roundtables – Registrant participation is essential. Moderators will facilitate discussions but attendees should come prepared with questions and comments

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<th><strong>Trade in the Caribbean Basin</strong></th>
<th><strong>Dispute Resolution in the Caribbean Basin and Central America</strong></th>
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<td>We all want trade as an economic boom for the region but what are those trade opportunities and how can entrepreneurs finance their business? The Caribbean and Central American regions have over two dozen jurisdictions, close to 100 million people, several languages, races and religions which share a common geographic area in the Caribbean Sea. Although there are many individual members within this region, there is great potential for business, trade and economic development if viewed as whole economic region. This roundtable discussion seeks to engage attendees in how to maximize the potential</td>
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<td>With over two dozen independent legal systems, with overlapping and competing elements of common law and civil law, dispute resolution varies across the region. Currently, the Uniform Law Commission in the United States has been involved in discussions with various jurisdictions about harmonizing recognition and enforcement of foreign judgments through uniform laws as an alternative to treaties. This year the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court celebrated its 50th anniversary. The Caribbean Court of Justice, established</td>
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opportunities for trade in the region, what are the basic tools needed to engage effectively with potential partners and how to finance these new businesses. Among the areas of discussion for the roundtable will be: why trade in the Caribbean, what are some financing questions in order to do business in the region, how does the United States trade policy impact the region and its free trade relationships in the Caribbean; the Caribbean Basin Initiative, the CAFTA-DR free trade agreement and the Panama Trade Promotion Agreement.

Moderator: Max Trujillo, MJT Policy LLC, Washington, DC

In 2001 pursuant to treaty, provided a regional judicial tribunal. On the other hand, arbitration has long been recognized in the Caribbean; the Arbitration Act in Jamaica dates to 1900. A regional arbitration law has been proposed as part of the Canadian Improved Access to Justice in the Caribbean project. With the Caribbean Basin assuming greater importance in terms of foreign investment, effective dispute resolution mechanisms become critical. This roundtable discusses the status of dispute resolution in the region, both from litigation and arbitration perspectives, and will develop a set of best practices recommendations to emerge from the conference.

Moderator: Steven M. Richman, Clark Hill PLC, Princeton, NJ

5:00 PM – 6:00 PM Closing Plenary
How Do We Get to Do Business in Central America and the Caribbean?

6:00 PM – 7:00 PM Wrap-Up Reception – District Court
Dinners in Old San Juan

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM Continental Breakfast

Sunday, October 22, 2017
Day to Tour

Monday, October 23, 2017

Flights to Miami for 2017 Fall Conference at www.ambar.org/ILFall2017
REGISTRATION FORM – SAN JUAN MODULE

Name: ________________________________________________________________________
(First Name – Last Name: conference name badge will be printed as indicated above)

Firm/Organization: ____________________________________________________________

Address: _____________________________________________________________________

City/State/Zip Code/Country: ____________________________________________________

Telephone: ___________________________ Fax: _________________________________

Email: ________________________________________

☐ Registration fee: $195

☐ Guest Ticket: $55
This ticket is designed for people who will be accompanied by another individual to the receptions during the conference. This additional person is typically a spouse and this ticket is only for the receptions. Please complete a second registration form for anybody wishing to participate in the entire event.

Payment Method

☐ Please return an invoice with credit card or check payment instructions

☐ Please return an invoice with wire payment instructions

Please complete this form, and submit no later than Friday, September 14 to:
Thomas Happell
American Bar Association - Section of International Law
1050 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036
Email: intlawmeetings@americanbar.org

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