

Curriculum Vitae

Professional Summary

With over two decades of experience in contract law, particularly within the construction sector, the focus is on navigating complex international transactions and disputes. A proven track record as a trusted arbitrator includes successfully resolving and mediating a diverse range of conflicts across various regions, which has led to valuable insights into different legal systems.

Roles as Chairman, Sole Arbitrator, Co-Arbitrator, and Counsel with esteemed arbitration institutions have provided the expertise necessary to ensure fair and efficient resolutions in domestic and international arbitration.

In addition to practical experience, a Ph.D. in international arbitration and contributions to legal education as a law professor have been obtained. Publications in reputable legal journals reflect a commitment to advancing academic discourse in the field.

Skills

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| Effective Dispute Management | Proficient in Negotiation and Mediation | Legal Expertise and Knowledge |
| Skilled in Evaluating Information | Negotiation of Settlements | Analytical and Decision-Making |
| Ethical Standards and Professional Conduct | Commitment to Impartiality and Independence | |
| Geographical and Jurisdictional Knowledge | Experienced in Developing Settlement Agreements | |

Professional Experience

- Contract Law Specialist, Broadway Subway Project. Nov. 2023 to current. Vancouver Canada
 - General advice and support to project management, site management, and other project team members in execution of project contracts.
 - Enforce and defend contractual interests throughout the project life.
 - Prepares and proposes to the Project management all letters, counterclaims and claims with the understanding that the ultimate resolution could be at arbitration as per the contract.
 - Advise and administers the contract in order to anticipate the claims procedures.
 - Analyses “incoming project documentation” and prepare “outgoing contract related letters” for project/site managers and project teams.

- Legal Advisor and Attorney, Francesco Zappala Law Firm. Sep. 2002 to current. Colombia.
Acting as counsel in commercial and trade litigations and arbitrations.
 - Advise clients of their legal rights and all matters related to law.
 - Research legal precedents and gather evidence.
 - Plead clients' cases before courts of law, tribunals, arbitrations and boards.
 - Prepare legal documents such as real estate transactions, divorces and contracts, and prepare statements of legal opinions.
 - Negotiate settlements of civil disputes.
 - Perform administrative and management functions related to the practice of law.

- Arbitrator and Mediator. Sep. 2011 to current. Colombia.
Acting as arbitrator and mediator in commercial and construction arbitrations.
 - Resolve conflicts outside of the court system by mutual consent of parties involved.
 - Apply relevant laws, regulations, policies, or precedents to reach conclusions.
 - Conduct hearings to obtain information or evidence relative to disposition of claims.
 - Decide disputes between opposing parties based on evidence arguments submitted by both sides.
 - Organising and conducting arbitration meetings or hearings where both sides present their evidence summarising each side's position in a written document.
 - Interpreting and applying the relevant laws

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- Associate Professor, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana. Jun. 2007 – Dec. 2021. Cali, Colombia.
 - Developed in-depth lectures based on books, personal research, and course objectives to drive students learning.
 - Supported graduate students in selecting research topics, planning projects, and meeting graduation requirements.
 - Adapted syllabi to provide consistent engagement through in-person and online instruction formats.
 - Expanded personal publication library by proactively pursuing academic journal opportunities.
- Mediation and Arbitration Center Director, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana. Sep. 2016 – Dec. 2021. Cali, Colombia.
 - Lead engagement with key mediation and arbitration organizations.
 - Responsible for mediation and arbitration files.
 - Representing at conferences, lectures and other professional occasions
 - Representing behalf of the center in public control entities.
 - Position the mediation and arbitration center in the main issues of multilateral policy for companies.
 - Answering general queries about mediation and arbitral process.
- University Department Director, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana. Mar. 2016 – Jan. 2020. Cali, Colombia.
 - Managed Law Professor employee performance through disciplining, coaching and counseling.
 - Develop annual academic schedule for more than 400 Professors to more than 900 courses.
 - Developed and maintained effective working relationships with team members, management, and customers to boost company productivity and morale.

Education

- Ph.D. in International Arbitration, Università degli Studi La Sapienza, Facoltà di Giurisprudenza, Rome Italy, July 2016.
- LL.M. Master in European Private Law, Università degli Studi La Sapienza, Facoltà di Giurisprudenza, Rome Italy, July 2008.
- LL.M Master in Commercial Law, Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana, Facultad de Derecho, Medellin Colombia . June 2005.
- Licence in Law, Universidad de San Buenaventura, Facultad de Derecho, Cali Colombia, J.D., August 2002.

Chartered Arbitrator 13 years of experience in trade and construction disputes

ARBITRATION CENTERS MEMBERSHIPS

- Corte de Arbitraje de Madrid
- Centro de Arbitraje de la Cámara de Comercio de Bogotá D.C.
- Centro de Arbitraje de la Cámara de Comercio de Cali
- Superintendencia de Sociedades de Colombia
- Camera Arbitrale di Firenze
- Camera Arbitrale Internazionale Italiana
- Centro Internacional de Arbitraje, Resolución y Dispute Boards de Peru

Advanced Courses in Arbitration

- Fordham University Law School. New York, EEUU. 2009. Alternative Dispute Resolution.
- International Centre Dispute Resolution. Bogotá D.C., Colombia. 2009. Arbitraje Comercial Internacional.
- American University Washington Law School. Washington, EEUU. 2015. International Arbitration.
- Camera Arbitrale Internazionale. Italia. 2020. Diritto dell'Arbitrato.

Advanced Courses in Construction Arbitration

- Cour Europeenne D'Arbitrage. 2022. Construction Arbitration Training Course.
- The Construction Institute of Canada. Vancouver. 2024. Construction Law Course.

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Recognitions

- ✓ Ph.D. Thesis 'Deregulation dell'Arbitrato Internazionale'. Premio Minerva Università degli Studi La Sapienza, Facoltà di Giurisprudenza, Rome Italy, July 2016.
- ✓ Best Arbitrator of the Year. Centro de Arbitraje de la Cámara de Comercio de Cali. July 2018.

Publications in Academic Journals

- Aplicación del trialismo jurídico al análisis de laudos arbitrales en las inversiones extranjeras en energías renovables
- Consolidación de la Regulación Integrada de Energía y Medio Ambiente en la Unión Europea Bajo las Premisas del Derecho de la integración
- La Equivalencia Funcional entre Árbitro y Jueces. Análisis desde su Responsabilidad
- Arbitrato Internazionale e Ordine Pubblico Internazionale – Norme Imperative e A-nazionalità
- Brevíssima Historia del Arbitraje en Línea como Medio de Protección al Consumidor en Colombia desde una Perspectiva Estrictamente Legal
- Comparación Histórica e Institucional de los Procesos de Integración Regional de la Unión Europea y Mercosur a la Luz de las Teorías de las Relaciones Internacionales
- Auténtico Orden Público Internacional Desde la Óptica del Arbitraje Internacional
- Arbitrato Internazionale e Ordine Pubblico Internazionale – Precisazione del Concetto di Ordine Pubblico Internazionale
- Emancipación del Exequatur de la Anulación del Laudo Arbitral
- Arbitrato Internazionale e Ordine Pubblico Internazionale – Origine, Problemática e Teoria Conflittualistica
- A Propósito del Origen del Código Civil Colombiano
- Normatividad Procesal Aplicable en el Arbitraje Internacional
- Autonomía Contrattuale nell'Arbitrato Internazionale
- Persistente Binomio entre Arbitraje Internacional y Lex Mercatoria
- Due Process en el Arbitraje Internacional
- Memória Histórica da Arbitragem
- Universalismo Histórico del Arbitraje
- Nasciturus Diritti e Responsabilità
- Actividades Internacionales de las Regiones Italianas
- Advance Directives Declaraciones Anticipadas de Tratamiento Médico o Mal Denominado Testamento Biológico
- Estatuto Jurídico del Concebido
- Doctrina y Jurisprudencia en Materia de Interpretación e Integración del Derecho Contractual Italiano

Languages

Native in Italian and Spanish. Professional in English and Portuguese

Personal Information

Born in 1973, married with 1 daughter, Italian and Colombian nationality

Interest. Tennis, Soccer Referee, History, Modelism, and Offroad

Board Director of the Italian Chamber of Commerce in Canada West

Board Director of the Society of Italian Researchers & Professionals in Western Canada

References available upon request