



## *White Collar Defense and Investigations in Latin America*

WilmerHale's breadth of experience, outstanding team and deep connections throughout Latin America mean that we can respond quickly and efficiently when clients face investigations into their business practices and related enforcement actions. The liability stemming from such actions can be incredibly costly for corporate and individual clients. Navigating these complex matters requires dynamic, sophisticated counsel who understand the countries, business communities, and regulators involved.

### **PRACTICE AT A GLANCE**

- **Deep Regional Experience.** We regularly handle investigations across Latin America. We have conducted nearly 30 Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA) investigations there, including six in Brazil and eight in Mexico. Clients in these matters range from airlines to energy companies to manufacturers to media conglomerates.
- **Linguistic and Cultural Fluency.** Many of our lawyers have lived and worked in Latin America, and some are native Spanish and Portuguese speakers. This country-specific knowledge is key given the diversity of political systems and cultures across Latin America. We also work regularly with exceptional in-country counsel and professional services firms.
- **High-Level Government Experience.** Our team includes former US deputy attorneys general, US attorneys, and senior Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) enforcement officials. They bring great insight into the frameworks that shape clients' industries.
- **Defense and Investigations Prowess.** An internationally recognized leader in white collar defense and investigations, WilmerHale is known for helping prominent corporations, executives and public officials respond to enforcement actions, address compliance questions, mitigate risk and reputational damage, and aggressively litigate against allegations of wrongdoing.
- **A Strong FCPA Record.** Recognized as an "FCPA Powerhouse" and "FCPA Practice Group of the Year," WilmerHale has handled some of the most notable FCPA and anti-corruption cases in Latin America.

55+

Spanish and Portuguese speakers at WilmerHale

25+

FCPA investigations our lawyers have handled in Latin America

**"Market commentators find the firm 'phenomenal in the FCPA space' and add that 'they have a good-quality investigations practice' which is a 'big player in international investigations.'"**

— *Chambers Global*

## EXPERIENCE

- Represented Latam Airlines (formerly LAN Chile) in its FCPA settlements with the US Department of Justice (DOJ) and SEC.
- Conducted internal investigation for US natural resources company in Peru regarding complex technical and accounting issues.
- Represented a Fortune 50 global manufacturer in multilateral development bank investigations into potential corruption by the manufacturer’s distributors and affiliates in association with foreign government contracts in Latin America and Africa.
- Represented Key Energy in its SEC settlement and DOJ declination related to alleged misconduct in Mexico.
- Represented a major multinational company in a DOJ/SEC investigation of alleged FCPA violations in Brazil and Colombia, which was closed when both agencies declined to bring charges.
- Represented a US-based mining company in an internal investigation arising from the theft of minerals from a mine site. Our Spanish-speaking team of lawyers conducted interviews, reviewed documents to assess financial reporting issues, evaluated potential misconduct issues and advised on the resulting security and accounting process considerations.
- Represented a major media and communications company in connection with the successful resolution of the US government’s investigation into the role of the company’s Argentine joint venture in the FIFA soccer corruption scandal.
- Conducted internal investigation for US natural resources company in Mexico involving both US and Mexican law.
- Represented a client in an FCPA investigation involving alleged payments to officials from Venezuela’s state-owned oil and natural gas company. We obtained an SEC declination.
- Represented a multinational software company in the Mexico portion of an FCPA case that was settled with the DOJ and SEC.
- Represented a Germany-based aircraft services company and its US subsidiary in their settlements with the DOJ of FCPA issues relating to payments to government officials in Mexico and elsewhere.
- Represented oil driller Helmerich & Payne in its settlement with the DOJ and the SEC of FCPA matters involving payments to customs officials in Argentina and Venezuela.
- Represented a multinational energy company in an FCPA investigation involving alleged improper payments to local Peruvian officials.

## OUR EXPERIENCE INCLUDES WORK IN THESE AND OTHER COUNTRIES:

Argentina, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Curaçao, Ecuador, Guyana, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela



- **Global Investigations Review (GIR)** named WilmerHale the 2022 “Most Impressive Investigations Practice of the Year” and was a finalist in its 2021 “Most Impressive Investigations Practice of the Year,” “Most Important Court Case of the Year” and “Most Important Development of the Year” contests. Since 2015, *GIR* has named WilmerHale among the top five firms in its annual list of the world’s 30 leaders for investigations—including a number-one ranking in 2016.
- **GIR** ranked WilmerHale’s New York and Washington DC practices in Litigation: White-Collar Crime & Government Investigations.