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ECIJA lands to Puerto Rico with SBGB

ECIJA adds up its 12th territory with the onboarding of the local Firm Sanabria Bauermeister Garcia & Berio (SBGB LLC), and launches its 20th international office.



From left to right, Hugo Écija, Founding Partner and Chief Executive of ECIJA; Jaime Sanabria, Partner at ECIJA Puerto Rico; Fernando Berio, Partner at ECIJA Puerto Rico and Mauricio París, Regional Manager of ECIJA in LATAM.

ECIJA continues its **ambitious strategy growing in Latin America through the alliance of the Puerto Rican Firm Sanabria Bauermeister Garcia & Berio (SBGB LLC)**. This movement strengthens the Firm's presence in the American continent. After this onboarding, ECIJA adds up a new territory to: Chile, Panama, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, Dominican Republic and Costa Rica. The presence of ECIJA in America **expands up to nine countries**.

Sanabria Bauermeister Garcia & Berio (SBGB LLC), will be operating after the merge as ECIJA SBGB. The local Firm is one of the most innovative, relevant and dynamic of the legal industry in Puerto Rico, with a wide full-service experience. It has shown a flourishing progress since its foundation in less than two years. The Firm has represented important companies from the island, with special attention in the infrastructure and building industry of the Caribbean territory, causing the merge of the Firm in the international market, since it represents several Latin-American and European entities that are showing interest in Puerto Rico and the Caribbean as strategic investment area.

The transaction means the incorporation to ECIJA of 24 new professional and 6 partners with wide professional experience.

With this operation, ECIJA adds up a sum of **20 offices in 12 countries, 83 partners and more than 420 professionals all around the world**, through its presence in Europe and Latin America.

ECIJA will offer in the region a full-service, high valued counselling with an important differential, that lies in the deep background of the Firm at TMT and innovation areas. ECIJA has been acknowledged in these two areas, for the third year in a row as the best firm in Intellectual Property, New Technologies and Data Protection, and also as the most innovative Firm in the Spanish market by the "Expansion Awards". Likewise, ECIJA has been recognized as the best European Firm in Technology by "The Lawyer Magazine".

This onboarding takes place just a few weeks after the merge of ECIJA with Jiménez de Parga Firm, in addition to the several incorporations that have been taking place during 2019, Ad & Law, Colón de Carvajal and Zadal Lawyer & Tax Consultants.

Hugo Écija, Founding Partner and Chief Executive of ECIJA, affirms that *"Puerto Rico has a strategic geographic position in our plans for two reasons: it was the missing piece in the Spanish Caribbean and, also, the entrance door to the United States. At the beginning we ventured to land at non-traditional LATAM markets, since they are full of opportunities"*.

Jaime L. Sanabria, Founding Partner of ECIJA SBGB, remarks that *"we merge with ECIJA to answer the demand of our customers in the European and Caribbean market, specifically in the Spanish and Dominican markets. Likewise, our objective is to work as a link between 4 immense markets: Europe, United States, Latin America and Caribbean"*.

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