

Madrid, December 10th, 2019

## ECIJA strengthens its international leadership with the merging of the Panamanian firm SHAMAH, VARGAS & CÓRDOBA

Throughout this movement, ECIJA consolidates as the Spanish Firm with more presence in the American continent, where it is already present in 10 countries.



From left to right, Antonio Alberto Vargas, Founding Partner of ECIJA Panamá; Alejandro Touriño, Managing Director of ECIJA; Armando Córdoba, Founding Partner of ECIJA Panamá; Mauricio París, Regional Manager of Latin America ECIJA; Daniel Shamah, Founding Partner of ECIJA Panamá and Hugo Écija, Founding and Executive President of ECIJA.

ECIJA continues working its ambitious strategy of development in Latin America, merging at this time with the Panamanian firm Shamah, Vargas & Córdoba, which will join the existing ECIJA team at Panama. Thus, after the merger just two years ago with the firm Expertis, which meant to ECIJA the entry into 7 countries of Central America and the Caribbean, including Panama, the Firm now takes a step forward, strengthening its practice in Panamanian territory. With this movement, ECIJA exceeds the number of 300 professionals in America, with a presence in a total of 10 territories (USA, Panama, Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, Chile, Honduras, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala and Puerto Rico) , which places ECIJA as the Spanish firm with the largest presence in Latin America.

The new Panamanian team, led by the new ECIJA partners Daniel Shamah, Antonio Alberto Vargas and Armando Córdoba, will reinforce the practice of ECIJA in the country, giving it a more multidisciplinary character and especially consolidating the areas of corporate, labor, tax and procedural, where the new partners and their teams will help consolidate ECIJA's presence in the country.

This merging takes place shortly after the addition to ECIJA of the Spanish firm Bustillo Abogados, the Chilean firm Estudio Jurídico Otero and the Puerto Rican firm SBGB. Among other integrations in 2019, the incorporation to ECIJA of the Jiménez de Parga Office, Ad & Law, Colón de Carvajal and Zadal Abogados and Tax Advisors is also included.

In the words of Alejandro Touriño, managing partner of ECIJA: "Our goal is to constantly improve and grow in partners, offices, teams, expertise and brand positioning to be a diverse and multidisciplinary firm. Thanks to this focus, today we can say that we are the Spanish firm with the largest presence in Latin America. We are aware that there are still relevant markets to open, but we work hard every day for it."

Armando Córdoba, new partner of ECIJA in Panama, indicates that this movement means for Shamah, Vargas & Córdoba to join a diverse and referent firm in Europe in the field of TMT: "Every office is different, but all partners work under the same firm team, we support each other, and we all share resources, offices, experts and know how. Undoubtedly, this will result in an improvement of services to our clients who seek in us the strength of a firm like ECIJA and innovation in the provision of legal services."

#### About ECIJA:

ECIJA, with more than 20 years of experience, is on the Top 10 of the best Spanish Firm, according to the prestigious rankings of Chambers & Partners and The Legal 500, and it has been consolidated in the first place as full service legal advice firm.

It has been acknowledged by The Lawyers as best TMT firm in Europe and by Financial Times between the ten more innovative firms of the continent. Its relevance in the local market has been also acknowledged by Expansión and by Forbes, which has been declared as best firm in Digital Economy of Spain. ECIJA has with a team formed by 86 partners and more than 450 professionals in an international level, allocates in countries such as Spain, Portugal, United States, Chile, Honduras, Costa Rica, República Dominicana, Nicaragua, Guatemala, El Salvador, Puerto Rico and Panamá.

#### About SHAMAH, VARGAS & CÓRDOBA:

SHAMAH, VARGAS & CÓRDOBA is a law firm founded in 2013, whose values are professionalism, excellence and customization of all of their services. Daniel Menash Shamah Maschkowski, Antonio Alberto Vargas Aguilar y Armando Rafael Córdoba Bustavino were the founding partners that enliven and permeate the legal corporation that offer their services to the world.

#### Contact

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#### **Communication and Marketing**

+ 34 91 781 61 60

info@ecija.com

[www.ecija.com](http://www.ecija.com)