



Benjamin Aguilera

Partner
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Ben Aguilera has an extensive background in US corporate, M&A, finance, and securities matters (private placements). In addition, Ben has significant experience in international, cross-border transactions in: corporate, M&A, venture capital, finance, hospitality, resorts, commercial and residential real estate and mining.

Ben has over 25 years of experience in the U.S. and in Mexico in corporate/business, international/cross-border transactions, start-ups, M&A, venture capital investment, roll ups, formation of joint ventures and strategic alliances; incorporation of foreign subsidiaries; acquisition, financing, entitlement, development, and sale of hospitality, resort, commercial, and residential developments and mining properties; and issues regulated by NAFTA and other treaties and conventions between the U.S. and other countries. In addition, Ben assists in the development, coordination, and implementation of litigation, intellectual property, environmental, labor, and tax strategies in Mexico and other Latin American countries.

Ben was born and raised in Mexico. He earned his bachelor's degree in accounting in 1982 in Mexico City; obtained his Mexican public accounting license in 1983; and practiced public accounting in Mexico until 1984. In 1986 he earned a master's degree in accounting from the University of Texas at El Paso and in 1993 he earned his JD degree from Texas Tech University School of Law. Ben was admitted to practice law and public accounting in Arizona in 1993.

Before founding Aguilera International Counsel, LLP, Ben practiced law as a shareholder at Greenberg Traurig, LLP from 2001 to June 2007; as an associate at Squire, Sanders & Dempsey from 1998 to 2001; and at Snell and Wilmer from 1993 to 1998. He also practiced as a CPA with PricewaterhouseCoopers from 1986 to 1990 in the U.S. and 1984-1985 with KPMG Peat Marwick in Mexico.

Areas of Experience

- Corporate and Business law
- Mergers and Acquisitions, including both stock and asset purchase transactions
- Start ups; Roll ups; Venture Capital Investment/Financing
- International/Cross-border M&A, Venture Capital Investment/Financing in Mexico and Latin America
- International Cross-border joint ventures and other strategic alliances
- Incorporation of entities in Mexico and Latin American countries
- Purchase, sale, diligence, and entitlements of commercial and residential real estate, resorts, hotels and mines in Mexico
- Commercial lease agreements for commercial and industrial space in Mexico
- Licensing, permitting and contracting under foreign manufacturing programs
- Manufacturing agreements, services agreements, and shelter agreements between U.S. corporations and Mexican contractors
- Sale of goods agreements between U.S. and Mexican corporations
- Alternative dispute resolution methods for cross-border transactions
- Coordination of litigation, environmental, labor, and tax matters in foreign jurisdictions



Professional & Community Involvement

- Arizona-Mexico Commission - Finance, Business and Legal Committee – Co-Chair, 2000 - Present
- Border Trade Alliance, Board of Directors - Member, 2001 - 2004
- Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce
 - Executive Committee - Member, 2004-2008
 - Audit & Governance Committee - Member, 2005-2008
 - Board of Directors - Member, 2001-2008
- State Bar of Arizona - Securities Regulation Section
 - Executive Council – Chair, 2002 – 2003
 - Executive Council – Member, 1999 – 2003
- American Bar Association – Member
- Hispanic National Bar Association – Member
- State Bar of Arizona – Member
- Arizona State Board of Accounting – Member
- Arizona Governor's Latin Advisory Council – Member, 2003-2006

Awards & Recognition

- *Best Lawyers in America* - 2012 Edition – International Trade and Finance.
- *Best Lawyers in America* - 2011 Edition – International Trade and Finance.
- *Arizona's Finest Lawyers* - Inaugural 2011 Edition
- Madison Who's Who of Professionals - VIP Member, 2008-2009 Edition
- *Best Lawyers in America* - 2006 Edition
- *The Business Journal of Phoenix* - "Who's Who in Law" - "Leading Lawyers," 2006
- *The Business Journal of Phoenix* - "Best of the Bar" - International Law, 2005
- *The Business Journal of Phoenix* - "Best of the Bar" - Corporate Law, February 2003
- *Today's Arizona Woman* – "25 Awesome Arizonans," January/February 2003
- *The Business Journal of Phoenix* - "Arizona All Stars," Top Minority Leader, Oct. 2002

Education

- J.D., Texas Tech University School of Law, 1993
- M.A., Accounting, University of Texas at El Paso, 1986
- B.A., Business Administration/Accounting, Universidad Tecnológica de México, 1982

Languages

- English
- Spanish

Admitted to Practice Law

- Arizona

Admitted to Practice Accounting

- Arizona
- Mexico