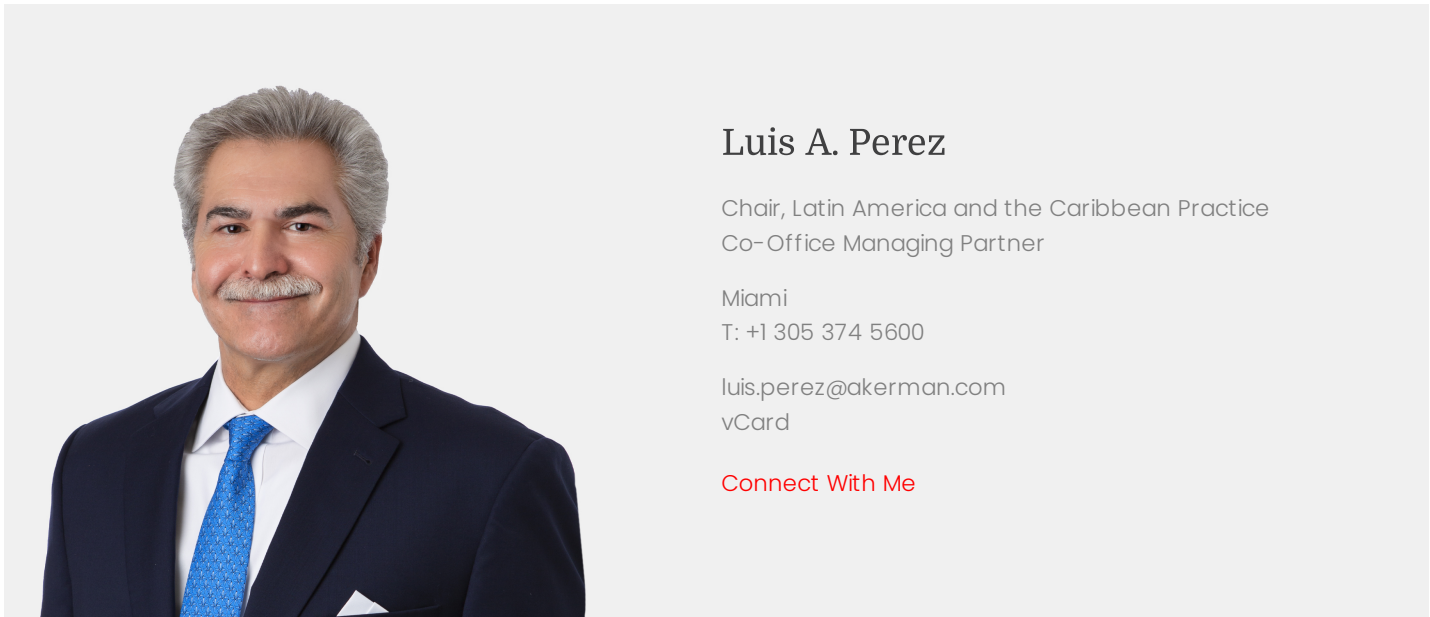


People



Luis A. Perez

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Luis A. Perez is the chair of Akerman’s Latin America and the Caribbean Practice, an internationally recognized team providing legal counsel across multiple disciplines. He focuses his practice on dispute resolution and handles commercial litigation and arbitration across the United States and Latin America for clients in various sectors, including manufacturing, defense contracting, energy, technology, financial services, and medical devices. He also serves as co-managing partner of Akerman’s Miami office.

Ranked by *Chambers Global*, which notes his “deep understanding of legal systems and culture,” Luis represents companies in commercial disputes throughout Latin America. He has coordinated and directed the prosecution and defense of hundreds of cases across the region involving individual civil actions, criminal actions, administrative claims, governmental investigations, and class actions. Luis’ practice focuses on complex commercial disputes including claims for product liability and breach of contract.

Luis has been listed as one of Latin America’s Top 100 Lawyers by *Latinvex*, named by *Chambers Global* among the “Leaders in their Field” for International Arbitration (Latin America-wide), and serves as chair of the firm’s annual ALM-Akerman U.S. Latin America Summit.

Notable Work

UNCITRAL Arbitration: Representation of a U.S. investor in an investment arbitration arising out of the violation of rights to oil drilling and extraction operations, and other related violations to the United States-Peru Trade Promotion Agreement (UNCITRAL/PCA; Seat: Paris).

Arbitration: Represented a renewable energy company against a sovereign in connection with the concession and construction of a windfarm in the Dominican Republic. The project failed resulting in an arbitration filed before ICSID (International Center for Settlement of Investment Disputes), in Washington D.C., part of the World Bank. The amount at stake surpasses \$100 million.

Areas of Experience

- International Litigation and Arbitration
- Latin America and the Caribbean Litigation
- Commercial Disputes
- Cuba
- International
- International Trade and Customs
- Product Liability and Mass Torts
- Hospitality
- Hospitality Dispute Resolution

Education

- J.D., Loyola University New Orleans College of Law, 1981
- B.B.A., Loyola University, New Orleans, 1978, cum laude

Admissions

Bars

- District of Columbia
- Florida
- Louisiana
- New York
- Texas

Courts

- U.S. Supreme Court
- Florida Supreme Court
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, District of Columbia
- U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Florida
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida
- U.S. Court of Federal Claims
- U.S. Court of International Trade
- U.S. District Court, Middle District of Louisiana
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Louisiana
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of Louisiana
- Louisiana Court of Appeals
- Louisiana Supreme Court

Expert Witness: Testified as an expert witness in an international arbitration at the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) in March 2022 on the applicability of an arbitration clause in a private contract.

Raytheon Arbitration: Represented the German subsidiary of a Fortune 100 defense contractor in a \$155 million arbitration administered by the ICC, venued in Madrid, Spain against a sovereign government agency with respect to a contract for the repair of two submarines. After a favorable decision, the ruling was challenged in Spanish courts, which affirmed the result and awarded fees to our client.

Thrombotargets Arbitration: Represented a Barcelona-based pharmaceutical research and development company in its claim against a United States drug manufacturer for its failure to comply with contractual obligations and performing below industry standards. The dispute was administered by the ICC and the final hearing was held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The hearing ended in a significant multimillion dollar victory for the client. The arbitrator granted all damages sought, plus pre-judgment interest, lawyers' fees, and costs, and dismissed a counterclaim in its entirety.

28 USC § 1782 Dispute: Represented client in enforcing a discovery request under 28 USC § 1782 to gain access to evidence for use in a foreign international proceeding.

Codisa Arbitration: Represented an international software company in an arbitration against a US based Fortune 100 company before the International Centre for Dispute Resolution (ICDR) arbitration. This arbitration was held in Miami, Florida.

United Brands Litigation: Represented the distributor of Diageo liquor products in the Dominican Republic regarding the improper termination of the distributorship agreement. The matter involved various millions of dollars and resulted in a favorable verdict before a jury in the Miami-Dade County Civil Court.

Philip Morris: Represented a global tobacco company in various proceedings in Latin America and directed the defense of all cases pending in the region.

El Baul: Represented a Guatemala-based sugar mill in a breach of contract, product liability claim against a US company. The dispute took the form of an arbitration before the AAA/ICDR.

Tecnal: Represented a Chilean international manufacturer of aluminum and glass covering for high-rise buildings in a contractual, product liability, dispute against a Fortune 100 US Company. The dispute was prosecuted in Federal Court in Cleveland, Ohio.

Published Work and Lectures

- *SWI swissinfo.ch*, Contributor, "El controvertido embargo de EEUU a Cuba cumple seis décadas," February 3, 2022
- University of Miami Law School, Lecturer, "Dispute Resolution and Arbitration," 2020
- *Law360*, Co-Author, "Tackling Uncertainty In Pandemic-Related Int'l Disputes," March 27, 2020
- Co-Author, article on Appeal of Arbitration Awards, 2016
- *Daily Business Review*, Co-Author, "A New International Option: The 'Emergency Arbitrator,'" September 2014
- Interlaw 2014 Annual Global Meeting, Presenter, "Early Determination of Issues in an International Arbitration

Languages

Portuguese
French
Spanish

Related Content

Akerman Continues to be Recognized by *Chambers Latin America* September 19, 2022

Law360 Names Akerman a 2022 Florida Powerhouse August 10, 2022

Akerman Partner Luis Perez Quoted in *Reuters* June 22, 2022

Proceeding,” Miami, September 9, 2014

- *Daily Business Review*, Co-Author, “New Arbitration Rules on Emergency Arbitration,” September 2014
- *ALM Focus Latin America*, Co-Author, “Can Venezuela Overcome Its Challenges?” June 2014

Affiliations

- American Bar Association, Member
- Inter-American Bar Association, Member
- Florida Bar Association, Member
- District of Columbia Bar, Member
- Dade County Bar Association, Member
- Hispanic National Bar Association, Member
- Hispanic Lawyers Association of Louisiana, Inc., Past President, 1994-1999; Member

Honors and Distinctions

- *Best Lawyers in America* 2019-2023, Listed in Florida for Arbitration, International Arbitration – Commercial
- *Chambers Global* 2017-2018, 2020-2022, Ranked in Arbitration (International) for Latin America-wide and in International Arbitration (USA) as a Foreign Expert for Latin America-wide
- *Chambers USA* 2021-2022, Ranked Nationwide for International Arbitration: Enforcement
- *The Legal 500* 2022, Recommended for International Firms: City Focus - Miami
- *Lawdragon*, Named Among Global Litigation 500, 2021
- *Latinvex*, Listed as one of Latin America’s Top 100 Lawyers, 2015
- Admitted as Arbitrator, United States Council for International Business
- *Chambers Global* 2014, Recognized as a “Leaders in their Field” for International Arbitration (Latin America-wide)
- *Chambers Latin America* 2013-2014, 2017-2022, Ranked for International Arbitration
- *Super Lawyers* Magazine 2014-2018, Listed in Florida for International
- *Chambers Global* 2013, Ranked for International Arbitration
- *Daily Business Review*, Most Effective Lawyer in Arbitration, Winner, 2014
- *Daily Business Review*, Most Effective Lawyer in Arbitration and Mediation, Winner, 2013
- Republican Gold Medal Award Recipient, 2003
- City of New Orleans 1998, Selected as “Outstanding Hispanic Professional”
- City of New Orleans 1989, Awarded Certificate of Merit by the Mayor
- City of New Orleans 1989, Selected as “Outstanding Hispanic Professional”