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Areas of Practice

Global Transport | Financing and Commercial Transactions | Mergers & Acquisitions | Structured Finance | Corporate Law

Israel I. Sanchez is a Partner in the Global Transport Practice of Smith, Gambrell & Russell, LLP.

Mr. Sanchez's primary areas of practice are aviation and aircraft finance, leasing, structured finance, and corporate law. Israel has experience in the structuring, drafting and negotiation of financing and leasing transactions (including tax-based leveraged and cross border leasing, synthetic and operating leases), workouts, restructuring and bankruptcy matters on behalf of banks, financial institutions, lessors, lessees, owner trustees, guarantors, manufacturers and purchasers and sellers of equipment (including commercial, regional, corporate and cargo aircraft, aircraft engines and spare parts). He also has particular experience in all aspects of financing and leasing of business jet aircraft and fractional interest ownership programs.

Experience

- Representation of Volaris in connection with the negotiation of operating lease transactions with various aircraft and engine lessors including AWAS, BOC Aviation, ILFC, SMBC Aviation Capital, Jackson Square Aviation, CIT, Avolon, Amentum, Macquarie, GE Capital Aviation, and ELFC.
- Representation of Volaris in connection with the negotiation of Airbus A320 aircraft family purchase agreements with Airbus S.A.S.
- Representation of Copa Airlines in connection with the negotiation of transactions for the acquisition and financing of Boeing 737 family aircraft with various aircraft financing parties including Aviation Capital Group, AWAS, SMBC Aviation Capital and GE Capital Aviation Services, PEFCO and Ex-Im Bank.
- Representation of the Avianca group airlines in connection with negotiation of finance transactions for Airbus A320 family aircraft with various aircraft financing parties including CIT, Avolon, AerCap, GE Capital Aviation and RBS.

Continued

- Representation of the Avianca group airlines in connection with European export credit agency supported financings of various ATR 72 family aircraft with HSBC and BNPP
- Representation of TACA International Airlines, S.A. in connection with European export credit agency supported financings of various Airbus A320 family aircraft.
- Representation of TACA International Airlines, S.A. in connection with Banco Nacional de Desenvolvimiento Economico E Social – BNDES supported financings of various Embraer aircraft.
- Representation of the Avianca group airlines in connection with intra-group subleasing of aircraft, and negotiations regarding same with aircraft lessors and financing parties including Air Lease, AirCastle, AerCap, Avolon, Aviation Capital Group, GE Capital Aviation Services and CIT.
- Representation of Aeroflot in connection with Eximbank supported financings of various Boeing 777 family aircraft.
- Representation of Spirit Airlines in connection with the negotiation of operating lease transactions of various Airbus A320 family aircraft with SMBC Aviation Capital.
- Representation of Philippine Airlines and affiliated companies in connection with the structuring, negotiation and consummation of both commercial and European export credit agency supported financings with capital market options of various Airbus A320 family aircraft as part of the largest aircraft order in Filipino history.
- Representation of Natixis as guaranteed lender in connection with an Ex-Im Bank supported financings of Boeing 777 aircraft.
- Representation of domestic and foreign airlines and leasing companies in negotiations with aircraft manufacturers, engine manufacturers, financial institutions, governments, other airlines and leasing companies.
- Representation of multinational leasing companies in sales, lease and lease restructuring negotiations with airlines.
- Representation of purchasers and operators in connection with the purchase, financing and leasing of corporate aircraft.
- Representation of corporate management in the acquisition and leasing of fractional interests in corporate aircraft.
- Representation of Grupo Taca Holdings in its joint venture with Synergy Aerospace Group (whose holdings include Avianca, SAM and Tampa airlines) to create one of the largest airline groups in Latin America.
- Representation of Grupo Taca Holdings in its sale of an 80% interest in its maintenance subsidiary to ACTS LP, a subsidiary of ACE Aviation Holdings.
- Representation of Taca International Airlines, S.A. and certain affiliates in connection with the establishment of a financing facility secured by credit-card receivables.

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- Representation of airline clients in connection with pre-delivery payment financings with multiple financing parties including Norddeutsche Landesbank Girozentrale, Deutsche Bank, RBS, General Electric Capital Corporation, Citibank and International Finance Corporation.
- Representation of multinational leasing corporations in repossession proceedings involving bankrupt lessees and beneficiaries.
- Representation of various Latin American financial institutions in connection with asset back loans.

Admissions

Florida

New York

Connecticut

Memberships

American Bar Association

Cuban American Bar Association

International Society of Transport Aircraft Trading