

## Headrick Rizik Alvarez & Fernández adds corporate and banking partner

11 Jul 2013



Dominican Republic firm **Headrick Rizik Alvarez & Fernández** has welcomed back **Jaime M. Senior Fernández** as a partner focused on finance and foreign investment. Senior, who worked for the firm as a paralegal from 2000 to 2004, returned on Monday, July 8, raising the number of partners in the Santo Domingo-based firm to 11.

Since completing his J.D. at Cornell University in 2007, Senior has been working as an associate for **Sidley Austin** in New York, focused on mergers and acquisitions, private equity transactions, and advising Latin American investors. He expects to maintain the relationship with Sidley, and said that it has already led to some referral work.

Senior explained that his motivation for returning to both the Dominican Republic and Headrick was rooted in a desire to come home. The Dominican national moved to the U.S. to pursue his J.D. in the expectation that it would give him an edge in the Dominican legal market and also allow him to take up some of work handled by founding partner William Headrick, who went into semi-retirement in 2002 but is still listed as of counsel on the firm's website.

“Traditionally the firm has had more international clients than local clients,” Senior said. “William Headrick was a U.S. J.D. and that’s where he was comfortable, the firm was able to capitalize on what was an underserved market.”

The Dominican economy has been growing and relatively stable compared to other Latin American markets. These factors coincide with an increase in international investment in the energy, tourism, and mining sectors, all of which benefits Senior’s practice, which will continue to focus on foreign investment, financing, and M&A.

“Clients in developed markets appreciate the New York style of practice, and New York law is something I’m very comfortable with,” he said. Senior alluded to a local Dominican client of the firm who was considering taking part in a syndicated loan, which would be governed under New York law, and who saw Senior’s experience and knowledge as an essential part of going forward with the deal. “I won’t be advising on New York law, but my experience and knowledge of New York and Delaware law is part of the value added and it helps to demystify issues for clients,” explained Senior.