

Headrick Rizik boosts partnership with corporate hire from Sidley

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Dominican firm [Headrick Rizik Alvarez & Fernández](#) has increased its partnership to 11 with the hire of corporate lawyer Jaime Senior from Sidley Austin LLP shortly after the retirement of one of the firm's founding partners William Headrick.

Senior, 30, made the move from Sidley Austin's New York office on Monday after six years as an associate working on M&A, private equity and investment funds, advisers and derivatives matters.

The Cornell-educated partner says joining Headrick Rizik was an easy decision because he had always enjoyed the "camaraderie and high level of practice" at the firm and was attracted to Headrick Rizik's preeminent position in the market. Senior worked at Headrick Rizik as a paralegal for four years and an associate for a few months before leaving to study at Cornell Law School.

Senior, who is dual-qualified in the Dominican Republic and New York and holds JDs in both countries, says; "I believe that my outlook is fairly unique and allows me to be bi-legal in addition to being fully bi-lingual," adding that the six years he spent at the M&A group of Sidley Austin's New York office were "invaluable in teaching me the New York-style of legal practice." He also hopes to strengthen Headrick Rizik's marketing, attorney training, IT and infrastructure and practice development departments on the back of his experience in a US firm.

Managing partner Francisco Alvarez says in many ways, hiring Senior resembled a "back to the future" moment for the firm, not least due to the recent retirement of founding partner William Headrick, who also holds a US JD and had worked at US-based firms. "After [Headrick's] retirement, we felt that it would be in our interest to continue to have that expertise available to serve our clients, and thus it was natural for us to seek to hire Jaime", he explains. "Given the increasing complexity and frequency of cross-border transactions, Jaime's experience will allow us to better provide cutting edge legal services in the country."

Evidence of cross-border work being undertaken by Headrick Rizik's corporate and M&A department was shown in recent weeks, when the firm assisted US insurance broker Marsh on its [acquisition](#) of local rival Franco & Acra Tecniseguros to enter the country.

Sidley Austin partner Carlos Rodriguez describes Senior as “one of the stars” of the firm’s Latin America, M&A and fund formation practices, and adds that the firm has plans to continue working with him at Headrick Rizik. “Always a team player, Jaime gave us over a month’s notice of his intent to return to his native Dominican Republic to practice law and carefully coordinated his departure with his colleagues at Sidley to assure the best possible service to our clients,” he notes. “We look forward to continuing to work with Jaime for common clients...and we hope that Jaime's move will increase that level of activity.”