

## RICARDO J. CATA

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# Curriculum Vitae

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## Legal Experience

**Wilson Elser, Regional Managing Partner**, Miami, Florida (2007-2013). Practice focused on the areas of general liability, premises liability, hotel and resorts' liability, product liability and commercial litigation. Particular experience representing hotels, resorts and tour operators from Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean in litigation filed in Florida's Circuit Courts and Federal Courts, obtaining several dismissals on the basis of *forum non conveniens* or lack of personal jurisdiction. Regularly handled lawsuits within the state, representing corporate clients and manufacturers, involving products manufactured in the U.S., Europe, Asia, Mexico and South America and sold in the U.S., in which allegations were made of design and/or manufacturing defects, as well as insufficient or inadequate warnings. Monitoring and supervising counsel for U.S. and multinational clients on lawsuits pending in Central and South America in various areas of civil liability.

**Wilson Elser, Partner**, Miami, Florida (1992-2013) Significant experience in cases involving allegations of design and construction defects, negligent inspection claims, and delay claims. Significant experience in litigating and trying product liability cases (consumer and industrial products), involving alleged defective design, defective manufacturing, and failure to warn claims. Represented U.S.-based multinational corporate client on suits asserting faulty design, construction, or inspection claims.

**Wilson Elser, Associate**, Miami, Florida (1987-1992) Litigated and defended product liability, premises liability, premises security, and construction defects cases. Defended and tried chiropractor malpractice cases.

## Admissions and Certifications

**Florida Supreme Court Certified Mediator, Circuit Civil**, since 2013

**The Florida Bar**, since 1976

**U.S. District Court**, Southern, Middle and Northern Districts of Florida, 1982, 1989, 1990

**U.S. District Court**, District of Puerto Rico, 1991

U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit, 1981

U.S. Supreme Court, 1979

Martindale Hubbell AV® Preeminent™ rated

American Arbitration Association, Essential Mediation Sills for the New Mediator, certificate of completion, Los Angeles, October 14-18, 2013

International Institute for Conflict Prevention and Resolution, 2013 Advanced Commercial Mediation Training, New York, June 12-13, 2013

American Bar Association's ADR's Advanced Mediation Training, Nashville, Tennessee, November 21-22, 2013

### Professional Memberships

American Bar Association, Section of Dispute Resolution

Miami International Arbitration Society, founding member, 2008-2013, international arbitration and mediation

Inter-American Bar Association, member; Assistant Secretary and Co-Chair, Commercial Law Committee, 1996

U.S.-Mexico Bar Association, 2010

ARIAS-U.S., 2007-2011

Arbitration Center of Mexico (CAM), 2010

American Bar Association, Member, Vice Chair of the Professionals', Officers' & Directors' Liability Committee, 1998-1999

The Florida Bar, Member, Chairman of the Legislative Committee, International Law Section, 1994;  
Chairman of the CLE Committee, International Law Section, 1996-1997

### Teaching Experience

University of Miami School of Business, Adjunct Professor of Business Law, 1983

### Education

University of Miami Graduate School of International Studies, M.A., 1991

St. John's University School of Law, J.D., 1975

Long Island University, B.A., 1972, summa cum laude

## Presentations

- “Mediation in the U.S.,” Swiss Re Mexico’s Jornadas de Reaseguros, Mexico City, September 2013
- “Class Action Litigation in the United States”, AMEDESEF, Mexico City, January 2011
- “Hurricane Katrina: Lessons Learned”, Swiss Re Mexico’s Jornadas de Reaseguro, Mexico City, September 2010
- Products Liability in the United States, Hannover Re, Bogota, Colombia, April 2008
- Hotel and Product Liability in the United States, Munich Re, Acapulco, Mexico, November 2006
- Hotel Liability in the United States, Hannover Re, Cocoyoc, Mexico, September 2006
- Products Liability, Employers Reinsurance Corporation, Bogota, Colombia, April 1998
- Products Liability, Grupo Nacional Provincial, Merida, Mexico, September 1997
- Hotel Liability, Grupo Nacional Provincial, Cancun, Mexico, August 1997
- Directors’ and Officers’ Liability, Chubb de Colombia, Bogota, Colombia, May 1997
- Products Liability, Employers Reinsurance Corporation, Coral Gables, Florida, April 1997
- Products Liability, Manufacturing Executives, sponsored by Allianz Mexico, Monterrey, Mexico, March 1997
- Products Liability, Asociación Mexicana de Ingenieros en Seguros (Amis), Mexico City, November 1996
- Emerging Markets Liability in South America, International Security Management Association, Newport Beach, California, January 1996
- Issues Relating to Directors’ and Officers’ Liability in International Banking, International Banking Operation’s Association’s Regulatory Compliance Conference, Naples, Florida, September 1995
- Recent Legal Trends on Insurance Claims, International Insurance Council’s Round Table on Latin American Insurance Conditions, New York, March 1995
- International Dispute Settlement, American Conference Institute’s International Business Transactions, Miami, March 1995
- “Latin American Insurance Market – New Opportunities for Insurers and Reinsurers”, The Florida Bar’s Eighth Doing Business in Latin America, Miami, March 1995

## Publications

- “Inter-American Law Year-in-Review”, *The International Lawyer*, American Bar Association, Summer 1997
- “Service of Process in Mexico: Let the Plaintiff Beware”, *International Commercial Litigation*, London, September 1997

“Seguros ‘Claims-Made’ en Estados Unidos: Fundamentos Judiciales”, *Revista Ibero-Latinoamericana de Seguros*, Bogota, Colombia, December 1996

“The Resurgence of Mexico and South America”, *Mercado Asegurador*, August 1996

“Product and Environmental Claims from Latin America against Multinational Corporations on the Rise”, *Latin American Law & Business Report*, July 31, 1996

“Emerging Markets Liability in Latin America”, *Inter-American Law Review*, summer 1996

Co-author, “A Practical Review of U.S. Product Liability Law”, *Business Mexico*, June, August, October 1995

“Tort Reform in the U.S.A.”, *Mercado Asegurador*, Buenos Aires, August 1993

“Venezuela – New Insurance and Reinsurance Law Enacted”, *Latin American Law & Business Report*, July 31, 1995

“Opportunities for Insurers and Reinsurers”, *Latin American Law & Business Report*, March 31, 1995

“Seguros ‘Claims-Made’ en los Estados Unidos: Fundamentos Judiciales”, *Mercado Asegurador*, Buenos Aires, November/December 1994

“Mediation and Hurricane Andrew”, *Mercado Asegurador*, Buenos Aires, August 1993

“Novedades Legales en el Reaseguro de Estados Unidos”, *Mercado Asegurador*, Buenos Aires, March/April 1993

“Uniform Foreign Money Judgments Recognition Act – an Idea Whose Time Has Come in Florida?”, *The Florida Bar Journal*, June 1992

“Procedural Aspects of Franchise Litigation”, *Manual of Franchise Law and Practice*, The Florida Bar, 1985