

[Home](#) / [People & Firms](#) / Friday round-up: Brazil firm bags product liability litigator

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The week's summary of the latest development in the disputes sector takes in a Latin American lawyer's first firm move in nearly four decades, and a change of scenery for a former South Korean financial regulator.

Brazil is where the round-up begins this week, with **Sérgio Pinheiro Marçal's** move to **Almeida & Marçal** in São Paulo ending his near four-decade career at **Pinheiro Neto**, where he was a partner advising on high-stakes litigation involving consumer law, product liability and mass tort.

Crossing to the US state of California, **Will Thompson** has left **Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan** in Dallas to take up a partner position at **DLA Piper** in San Francisco, adding notable trial experience for claimants and defendants including technology and sports entities, on fraud, trade-secret and business litigation before first-instance and appellate courts. DLA Piper San Francisco office managing partner **Jeff Tsai** lauded Thompson as "a

versatile litigator across sectors and cases [whose] business and legal acumen will be an asset to our clients”.

On the East Coast, former US Department of Education general counsel **Lisa Brown** has joined **WilmerHale** as a partner in its Washington, DC-based education practice and its crisis management and strategic response group. Also an ex-**Department of Justice** (DoJ) lawyer and former Georgetown University general counsel, Brown brings trial and appellate experience in professional discipline, government and education matters. WilmerHale managing partner **Anjan Sahni** highlighted Brown’s “truly remarkable career in and out of government”.

The New York branch of **Boies Schiller Flexner** (BSF) has welcomed a new counsel in **Michael Losco**, adding more than a decade’s trade law and international arbitration experience. BSF London-based international arbitration practice co-head **Timothy Foden** hailed the former **Dechert** associate’s arrival as “another significant step in the [practice’s] strategic growth” on account of his “valuable capabilities [...] in the energy and oil and gas sectors”.

In Texas, professional services firm **Berkeley Research Group** (BRG) has bolstered its ranks with the arrival of **Grant Mendeljian** as a director in its Dallas construction practice. With experience gained over a 25-year career, including six years as vice-president of preconstruction at construction management company **Moss & Associates**, he will advise stakeholders on disputes as well as broader planning and procurement matters. “Grant’s extensive experience and track record across all aspects of general contracting are a rare advantage for his clients,” said construction practice managing director **Jeffrey Wentz** in a statement.

CROSSING TO ASIA

BRG has also reinforced its Asia capabilities by hiring former **Compass Lexecon** senior vice-president and Brussels office head **Dennis Beling** as a managing director in its Hong Kong office, with responsibility for developing the competition practice in the region. Beling’s near two-decade career includes a tenure at the **Hong Kong Competition Commission** which included a stint as chief economist. BRG Brussels office managing director **Kai-Uwe Kühn** highlighted Beling’s “extensive international expertise” as a key strength.



In Seoul, **Barun Law** has hired **Moosung Jin** as a partner from fellow Korean firm **Bae, Kim & Lee**. Jin brings seven years' experience in South Korea's financial regulator, the **Financial Supervisory Service**, including a stint as senior deputy head of its corporate accounting oversight division.

Malaysian firm **Adnan Sundra & Low** has bagged a six-strong team in its Kuala Lumpur dispute resolution practice from rival outfit **Steven Thiru & Sudhar Partnership**. Litigation and arbitration practitioner **Sudharsanan Thillainathan** is also a [co-founding member of Singapore set Nine Arbitration Chambers](#), who led the move from Steven Thiru & Sudhar where he was senior partner, bringing with him fellow partners **Dawn Wong** and **Tania Edward**, along with a senior associate and two associates. An announcement on Adnan Sundra & Low's *LinkedIn* page called the new hires "a meaningful and strategic step in our firm's progress".

Moving south, **Penningtons Manches Cooper** (PMC) has recruited **Max Lim** as a partner in Singapore, adding shipping and commodities disputes experience including charterparty, bill of lading and casualty matters. Lim has joined following 13 years including 12 years as a partner at **Rajah & Tann**. PMC marine trade and aviation practice leader **Darryl Kennard** said: "Aside from Max's expertise in shipping, I am particularly excited to have an experienced commodities and trade finance practitioner in Singapore to complement those in our London and Piraeus offices."

ALL RISE

On the promotions front, **Squire Patton Boggs** (SPB) has announced the election of Los Angeles government investigations and white-collar practitioner **Gabriel Colwell** and London international dispute resolution professional **Max Rockall** to the firm's global board. SPB chair and global CEO **Mark Ruehlmann** said: "Max and Gabe are fantastic lawyers and respected leaders with a global perspective who understand what makes our business tick."

Not to be outdone, **Latham & Watkins** has elected 19 counsel to partner, including seven litigation and contentious regulatory practitioners across its New York, Washington, Chicago, Bay Area, London and Brussels offices. Latham & Watkins chair and managing partner **Rich Trobman** underlined the latest partner class for its "impressive experience, industry expertise, and legal skills".



Other developments this week include **Jenner & Block's** [hire of an ex-senior litigation counsel at the Environmental Protection Agency](#) in the firm's Washington office, while in Poland, UK Magic Circle firm **Linklaters** [announced its exit from the Warsaw market](#) by transferring its associated assets including two managing partners to **Addleshaw Goddard**. In London, a pair of **Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner** competition litigators [moved to Hogan Lovells](#).

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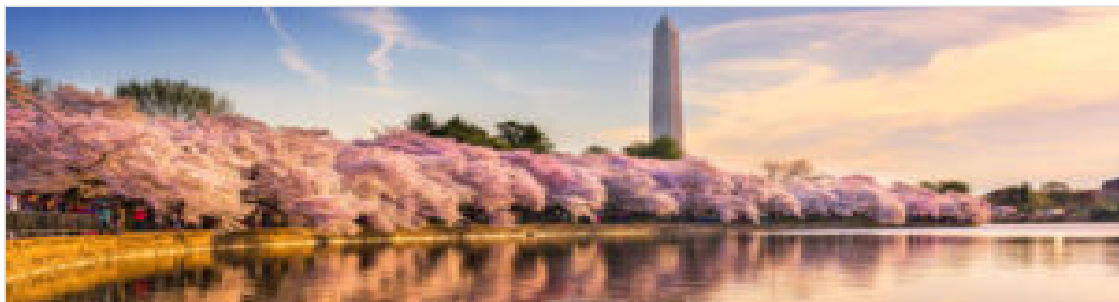
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