



# BERNARDO VAN DER LAAT

## DIRECTOR

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**Bernardo** holds the position of Director in BLP's San José office. He has more than 11 years of experience in Business Law, with an emphasis on mergers and acquisitions.

During his career, Bernardo has advised national and foreign companies including pharmaceutical, financial and service centers in legal aspects of their day to day activities.

Bernardo has extensive experience in mergers and acquisitions, in which he has participated nationally and internationally, such as the advice given to GDF Suez in the sale of its \$800 million of assets in Costa Rica and Panama.

In addition to his work as a corporate lawyer, Bernardo is highly active in pro bono initiatives, civic activities, and public reform projects, such as the social enterprise La Esquina, which aims to generate employment and comprehensive support to members of communities at high social risk. He has also participated in the initiative Citizen Power Association Now! (Asociación Poder Ciudadano Ya!) which originates political proposals in Costa Rica and is one of the founding members of the Association for Electric Mobility, which seeks to promote the decarbonization of transportation in Costa Rica.

He joined the BLP team as an Associate in 2011, after having worked as a Legal Assistant at Facio Abogados and Zürcher, Odio & Raven.

## PRACTICE AREAS

- Business Law

## ACCREDITATIONS

### Education

- Master of Law, Northwestern University, United States, 2011
- Specialization in Notary and Registry Law, Universidad Interamericana, Costa Rica, 2011
- Law degree, Universidad Escuela Libre de Derecho, Costa Rica, 2007

### Languages

- Spanish
- English

## ASSOCIATIONS AND AFFILIATIONS

- Association for Electric Mobility
- Citizen Power Association Now!
- Costa Rica Bar Association