

Cuba Task Force

Established in 1910, Shutts has over a century of experience in navigating the ever-changing waters of U.S.-Cuba relations in the legal, political and commercial spheres. From its base in Miami, we have been in a unique position as both a witness and participant in almost every major event in Cuba's history since the beginning of the twentieth century. No other law firm in South Florida has such experience. Now, in this latest chapter of the Cuban story triggered by the decision of the U.S. to restore diplomatic ties with Cuba, our two countries are drawing closer and the business opportunities for clients in Cuba should not be ignored.

Our attorneys in the Cuba Task Force are fluent in Spanish and are either Cuban-born, Cuban-American or have visited Cuba extensively. They are uniquely positioned to assist clients with the legal and business opportunities available following the changes in the U.S. public policy toward Cuba. They frequently communicate and meet with the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) and the Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) on the changes, effects and implementation of U.S. policy. They represent U.S. and foreign clients in international commerce, sales and trade, and have significant experience in handling international business transactions. They also understand and help our clients stay on top of the latest U.S. legal and regulatory environment concerning Cuba and how that affects their business.

Our legal services include:

- Business entry-planning
- Navigating trade embargo issues
- Obtaining permits for export compliance
- Conducting due diligence investigations with our Cuban attorney counterparts
- Protecting intellectual property and trademarks

In addition, our attorneys understand the culture, language and history of Cuba. They are active in their communities, and they speak and write on U.S.-Cuba relations and the important legal, business, tax and social issues concerning U.S. policies toward Cuba. They serve on the Cuban American Bar Association, the Hispanic National Bar Association, the Hispanic and South Florida Chambers of Commerce, and Latin Chamber of Commerce of the U.S.A. (CAMACOL). Lastly, our firm is dedicated to supporting these efforts, having recently earned the top spot of Law360's list of best large and midsize firms for Hispanic attorneys.

Our Team



Alette DelPozo Rodz

Partner and Chair, Cuba Task Force
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Alette leads the firm's Cuba Task Force. She assists clients with their business prospects in Cuba in light of recent changes in U.S. policy. She counsels businesses facing legal challenges and has significant experience representing Latin American and U.S. clients in their business endeavors.



Gary M. Bagliebter

Partner and Co-Chair, White Collar Crime and Government Investigations
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Gary is a Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialist. He concentrates his practice on commercial litigation in federal and state courts and counsels foreign and domestic clients on anti-money laundering and OFAC compliance matters, the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, and internal investigations.



Brendan Aloysius Barry

Partner
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Brendan advises port-related businesses and business owners in commercial matters. He led a business delegation on a tour of the newly expanded Port of Mariel and traveled to Cuba for the reopening of the U.S. Embassy for a meeting with the Mariel Special Development Zone.



Roland Gallor

Partner
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Roland is a real estate attorney and regularly advises local and international investors, banks and other lending institutions, real estate funds and developers in connection with their business transactions involving commercial property.



Harold "Ed" Patricoff

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A veteran litigator, Ed counsels clients in the U.S., Latin America and Europe. He defends and prosecutes claims for national and international businesses in U.S. courts and international arbitration proceedings. He also counsels multinational companies on foreign and domestic claims.



Raciél Perez

Associate
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Raciél represents public and private companies, local and international investors, real estate funds and developers in the acquisition, financing, development, sale and leasing of real estate. He is experienced with the requirements of OFAC and the BIS relating to Cuba.



Olga Pina

Partner
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Olga is experienced in cross-border corporate transaction issues in Cuba, Central and South America. She handles corporate, securities, international business transactions and export compliance, including compliance with U.S. Treasury regulations relating to embargoed countries.



Francis "Frank" Rodriguez

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Frank represents acquirers and sellers of multinational businesses and domestic and foreign individuals and corporations with their inbound and outbound tax planning. He advises on contract, corporate structure and federal income tax matters in international business transactions.