

ESTUDIO BECCAR VARELA

ESTUDIO BECCAR VARELA OPENS CRIMINAL LAW DEPARTMENT

Buenos Aires, March 6, 2012. Estudio Beccar Varela opened its Criminal Law Department, thus taking part of a strong tendency of large international law firms towards rendering advice on criminal law matters, providing comprehensive legal advice to all the needs of corporate business. The new department will be led by Manuel Beccar Varela, founding partner of a leading firm in the area of corporate criminal law. Diego Seitún, an acknowledged specialist, will be part of this brand new team as a senior associate. With these new hires Estudio Beccar Varela has the key to being a market leader in the Criminal Law field.

The need to consult Criminal Law specialists with a corporate view is more frequent every day. Around the world there is a permanent advance of criminal legislation trying to target legal entities and their board members with criminal liability. Criminal regulations are more complex day by day and the scope of criminal legislation has expanded covering economic, tax, exchange, customs, money laundering, corporate fraud and informatic crimes.

Horacio E. Beccar Varela, Managing Partner of EBV, states that the opening of the Criminal Law department is a consequence of both the increasing demand for this kind of advice as well as the successful expansion strategy adopted by the firm in 2010: *“Our mission is to provide service excellence and grant our clients tailor-made comprehensive solutions. This is the reason why we strongly believe that the creation of a criminal law department will introduce both added value and a complete strategic business vision. In Manuel we found the ideal lawyer to lead this area. We will focus the investment towards the growth of the firm.”*



Manuel Beccar Varela graduated as a lawyer from the Universidad de Belgrano in 1994 and received a Postgraduate Degree in Criminal Law from the Universidad Austral (2002). He began his career in the Criminal Justice, first at the Criminal and Correctional Court N°1, then at the Oral Criminal Court N°6. He worked for the Criminal Division of the Legal Department at SICMA S.A., a company of the Perez Companc group, where he advised five companies of the group on criminal matters. In the late 90's he served as Chief Advisor of the Judicial Investigation Secretariat at the Ministry of Justice and Security of the province of Buenos Aires. In 1999 he began his career in law firms, as Associate at *Vergara & Fernandez Alonso*. In 2004 he formed his own firm, together with other founding partners under the name *Fernandez Alonso & Beccar Varela* (later *Fernandez Alonso, Beccar Varela & Richards*).

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Diego Seitún graduated as a lawyer from the Universidad Católica Argentina in 2000 and received a Postgraduate Degree in Criminal Law from the Universidad Austral (graduated with honours, 2003). He has a PhD in Criminal Law and Criminal Sciences from the Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, Spain. He began his career at *Estudio A. E. Seitún*. Between 1998 and 2004 he worked at the Judiciary of San Isidro, where he held the following positions: Assistant Officer, Alternate Clerk, and Clerk of the General Public Defender Office (Criminal Enforcement Area). He worked as an Associate at *Estudio Durrieu* (2005-2008) and at *Estudio Fernandez Alonso, Beccar Varela & Richards*.

Estudio Beccar Varela is one of the Argentine leading law firms, with a high reputation both in Argentina and abroad. The firm advises on all aspects of corporate and financial law. Its team is made up of 120 lawyers specializing in different areas of law, 24 of who are partners. There are also a large number of paralegals, trainee lawyers and assistants who support the lawyers in achieving the firm's goals.

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Edificio República, Tucumán 1, Piso 3°
(C1049AAA) Buenos Aires - Argentina
Tel. +54 11 4379 6800 / 4700
Fax +54 11 4379 6860