

José Rafael Bustamante Espinosa

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

Senior Partner at BUSTAMANTE FABARA and Co-Head of the Corporate Department, José Rafael has earned market recognition for his longstanding reputation in the corporate and commercial fields. He has extensive experience advising foreign clients doing business in Ecuador and is highly regarded by both clients and peers, having been a key figure in the Ecuadorian legal market for over 35 years.



José Rafael is a member of the International Trademark Association (INTA), the American Society of International Law (ASIL), the International Bar Association (IBA), the International Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property (AIPPI), the Inter-American Association of Intellectual Property (ASIFI), and Multilaw (where he served as President from 1996 to 1999).

Recognitions

IP Stars

- Patent Star 2025
- Trademark Star 2025

Lexology Index

- Thought Leader: M&A and Governance
- Recommended: M&A and Governance

Professional Experience

- Chairman of the Board of **Bustamante & Bustamante Cía. Ltda.**
- Currently, Chairman of the Board of **BUSTAMANTE FABARA.**
- Currently, Chairman of the Board of **EDESA S.A.**
- Secretary of the Monetary Board under the government of President Sixto Durán Ballén.
- Chairman of the Board of **Banco Centro Mundo.**

José Rafael has also served as:

- Member of the Board of **Ales S.A.**
- Chairman of the Administrative Council of the **American School of Quito**
- Chairman of the Board of the **Quito Tennis and Golf Club**

Education

- Master's Degree in Business Administration – IDE (1998)
- Master of Comparative Law (MCL) – Georgetown University Law Center (1979)
- Studies in Economics and Negotiation – Harvard University
- Studies in International Law – International Court of Justice, The Hague, Netherlands
- Studies in Technology Transfer – IDLI, Rome
- Doctor of Jurisprudence – Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador (1978)
- Bachelor of Political and Social Sciences – Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador (1974)
- IDLI – International Development Law Institute, Rome (1988)
- Academy of International Law, The Hague, Netherlands (1983)
- Participant in: INTA Panel of Neutrals; Inter-American Bar Association (1981)
- Internship at Bomchil, Castro, Goodrich, Claro, Lavalle et Associés, Paris (1980)
- Internship at Chadbourne Parke, Whiteside and Wolff, New York (1980)
- Participant in the International Bar Association Conference (1979, 1986, 1988)
- Private legal practice (Quito) (1974 – 1978)
- Mediator, INTA – Business Law Section (1974)

Memberships

- INTA – International Trademark Association
- ASIL – American Society of International Law
- IBA – International Bar Association
- AIPPI – International Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property
- ASIPI – Inter-American Association of Intellectual Property
- Multilaw – Founder and First President of Multilaw, a global network of law firms covering 78 countries and over 3,000 lawyers
- Multilaw President (1996 – 1999)
- Member of the Spanish Chamber of Commerce

Languages

- Spanish
- English

Nationality:

- Ecuadorian – Spanish

Contact

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