

Our Team Working Together

KATHERINE AMADOR

Partner

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“Katherine Amador is probably the most client sympathetic, passionate representative I have dealt with and that's hard to find.” Client testimonial to Chambers USA

Described as “the lawyer who gets deals done,” Katherine Amador is a partner in Berger Singerman’s Miami office and a key member of the Business, Finance & Tax Team. She is a consummate deal lawyer, known for leading clients in complicated transactions and overcoming obstacles to closing. Katherine has deep experience in complex, high-value real-estate transactions, mergers and acquisitions, and founder exits. She is known for developing deep relationships with clients, representing numerous family offices in all their business and personal matters.

On real estate matters, Katherine has extensive experience in complex real-estate transactions for private and institutional clients, representing regional and international developers and investors in real estate acquisitions, negotiation of purchase and sale agreements, and sales and development matters including vacant land, multi-family and other commercial property.

She has represented developer clients in the mass acquisition of condo units and follow on condominium termination efforts. Katherine represents institutional lenders in commercial lending for various types of projects. Also, she represents both lenders and borrowers in loan work-outs and distressed business transactions, negotiating forbearance agreements, note sales and acquisitions and deed-in-lieu of foreclosure transactions. She advises clients on real-estate litigation matters and has represented clients in multi-million-dollar commercial foreclosure matters, as well as disputes involving purchase and sale contracts and options, secured loans, inter-creditor agreements and title matters. Clients have sought Katherine’s advice and aid in enforcing and defending secured claims, including foreclosure, receivership, guaranty enforcement, and lender liability and bad faith claims.

On corporate matters, Katherine also represents public and private companies in connection with complex transactions including mergers, acquisitions, dispositions, financings and general corporate matters. She also advises boards, management, special committees, and investment banking firms on domestic and international corporate transactions. Katherine has built a specialty in assisting founders of successful companies grow, plan and secure multi-million dollar exit events.

Katherine is a trusted advisor to family offices and high-net-worth individuals, particularly from Latin America, offering comprehensive legal guidance tailored to their unique needs. She assists families in acquiring

significant residential and commercial assets, structuring corporate entities, managing financial transactions, and integrating tax, estate, and succession planning into their strategies. Her ability to seamlessly navigate cross-border investments and legal compliance has made her a go-to resource for families establishing or expanding their U.S. presence.

A native Spanish speaker with deep roots in Latin America, Katherine frequently advises international clients on corporate formation, commercial contracts, and regulatory compliance matters. She has collaborated with top law firms in over fifteen Central and South American countries to deliver seamless cross-border legal solutions. Her expertise bridges the gap between Latin America and the U.S., enabling clients to navigate the complexities of international transactions with confidence.

Katherine's ability to combine legal acumen with business insight has earned her a reputation as the go-to attorney for corporate transactions, mergers and acquisitions, complex real estate deals, and family office planning. Whether closing intricate deals or resolving disputes, Katherine's "get-it-done" approach ensures her clients achieve their goals.

Education

J.D., University of Miami School of Law
B.A., Florida International University

Bar Admissions

Florida

Practice Teams

Business, Finance & Tax

Practice Areas

Real Estate
Family Office
Distressed M&A & Restructuring
Latin America & Caribbean Practice

Foreign Languages

- Spanish

Representative Matters

- Real Estate Investor and Developer: Represented a prominent real estate investor and developer in the \$30M+ acquisition of a multi-folio assemblage in Miami Beach, addressing zoning complexities and structuring the deal to support large-scale development plans.
- Corporate and M&A: Represented client in corporate and transactional matters and led client in the planning, negotiation, and completion of \$50M+ exit sale.

- Family Office in Cross-Border Bankruptcy: Assisted a multinational family office in navigating a complex cross-border Chapter 15 proceeding, successfully coordinating with foreign counsel to protect client assets and ensure compliance with international insolvency laws.
- Fortune 50 Client in Compliance Matters: Represented a Fortune Top 50 company operating throughout Central and South America, addressing compliance with FCPA regulations and country-specific laws regarding unfair trade, anti-corruption, anti-monopoly, and anti-bribery. Delivered tailored legal and business solutions to ensure risk mitigation and adherence to local laws.
- Large Agricultural Land Sale: Represented Orange-Co LP, a major agricultural company, in the \$274M sale of 20,000 acres of citrus land, navigating environmental and land-use regulations and structuring the transaction to maximize value for the client.
- Homebuilders in Large-Scale Residential Projects: Advised national and regional homebuilders on land acquisition and development for large-scale residential communities, ensuring compliance with local zoning laws, securing financing, and negotiating key agreements to support long-term development goals.
- Real Estate Investors in Multi-State Transactions: Represented real estate investors and developers in the acquisition and sale of properties ranging from local single-property deals to complex, multi-state transactions, addressing due diligence, financing, and closing challenges.
- Latin American Investors in U.S. Hotel Acquisition: Assisted a group of Latin American investors in the multi-million-dollar acquisition of a U.S.-based hotel and related loans, resolving cross-border financing challenges and ensuring smooth closing under U.S. and international law.
- Private Equity Fund in Hotel Sale and Workout: Counseled a subsidiary of a private equity fund in the \$30M sale of a hotel while negotiating a workout with a bankrupt borrower to secure favorable terms for the client.
- Private Equity Funds in Florida Real Estate: Represented multiple private equity funds in acquiring and managing Florida-based real estate assets, addressing legal due diligence, deal structuring, and regulatory compliance.
- Distressed Real Estate Acquisitions for Opportunity Funds: Represented opportunity funds in the acquisition of distressed real estate, including purchase of loan portfolios, pre- and post-foreclosure commercial paper transactions.

Awards & Honors

- *Martindale-Hubbell*, AV® Preeminent™ rated, 2015
- *South Florida Business Leader*, Woman Extraordinaire, 2011

Community Activities / Associations

- Founder and First Chair of the Women of the Latin Builders Association Committee
- Hard Hats & High Heels, Habitat for Humanity Committee, 2016 - Present
- Cuban American Bar Association
- The Florida Bar Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section
- American Bar Association

In the News

Diarios las Americas features Kat Amador in "Feroz impacto de la pandemia en sector inmobiliario del sur de Florida"

July 10, 2020

Daily Business Review Features Berger Singerman in "Family Feud, Bankruptcy Filings, Coronavirus Loom Over \$45 Million Palm Restaurant Sale"

March 30, 2020

GlobeSt Interviews Katherine Amador in "Climate Change Concerns Make Surprise Appearance in Florida Survey"

January 8, 2020

Publications

South Florida Business Journal "2021 real estate boom: Why businesses are relocating to Florida"

February 16, 2021

Law360, "Steps For Commercial Real Estate Lenders As Biz Resumes"

June 11, 2020

Law360, "Steps Borrowers In Commercial Real Estate Must Take Now"

May 26, 2020

Daily Business Review, "Déjà vu or Vuja Dé? Coronavirus Set to Disrupt Fla. Commercial Real Estate"

March 31, 2020

Events & Speaking Engagements

Kat Amador, Panelist, "Developing Wynwood & Allapattah", Bisnow's 'Future of Wynwood & Allapattah'

January 27, 2022

Kat Amador, Presenter, "Five Things Lenders and Borrowers Must Do Now," HNBA Region VIII's Virtual Ventanita

March 30, 2020

Kat Amador, Panelist, "Developing Executive Presence," 2020 HNBA/VIA Corporate Counsel Conference & Moot Court Competition

March 19, 2020

Kat Amador, Panelist, "Hustle & Dough: How to Build a Pipeline, Create a Powerful Network, and Dominate Your Market," 2019 HNBA Annual Convention

September 25, 2019

Kat Amador, Panelist, "Real World Strategies for In-House Counsel Managing International Case Loads and their Application to Domestic Matters," Hispanic National Bar Association 8th Annual Corporate Counsel Conference

March 31, 2017

Kat Amador, Moderator, "WLBA's State of the Market Panel," 2016 LBA October Luncheon

October 27, 2016

Kat Amador, Chair, "Making it Rain in 2016," The Women of the Latin Builders Association

January 27, 2016

Doing Business in Florida Blog

CMBS Loan Maturities and Potential Defaults – a Tsunami or a Ripple?

July 6, 2016

Survey Says... Latin America Will Continue to Drive Foreign Investment in South Florida Real Estate in 2016
January 26, 2016