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Akin Gump Snags Fulbright Outsourcing Pro In Dallas

By **Dan Rivoli**

Law360, New York (June 7, 2011) -- Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP snagged a Fulbright & Jaworski LLP transactions and outsourcing attorney last week for its corporate practice in Dallas, adding to a new specialty to assist clients in remaining competitive globally.

Michael J. Brito joined Akin Gump as partner May 31, bringing the firm an outsourcing practice focused on information technology and business processes for companies, handling transactions throughout the U.S., Europe, Latin America and the Asia-Pacific region.

Brito said the move to Akin Gump will allow his clients to tap into a host of attorneys with specialized backgrounds of various industries and practices.

"Akin Gump has a terrific transactional platform for the clients I work with," Brito told Law360 Tuesday, "It's a really neat opportunity to work with world-class practitioners in a variety of different specialties, both in terms of industry segments and industry expertise."

Brito, a Stanford Law School graduate, represents clients in complex transactions by negotiating and drafting agreements, licensing contracts and dispute settlements. These transactions and contracts include software development and licensing, customer call centers, web hosting, marketing and joint ventures.

His clients are corporations in a variety of industries, including automotive, financial services, retail, insurance, telecommunications and utilities.

Before joining Fulbright, Brito was in-house counsel for a global outsourcing services provider, now owned by Hewlett-Packard Co. and named HP Enterprise Services. In that position, he served as group counsel for vertical industry groups, such as the financial services and manufacturing industries.

The in-house counsel position for the outsourcing services provider was the beginning of Brito's practice. He spent nearly a decade in this position, working out of Dallas for six years and in London for three.

He was previously a banking and finance attorney. In one deal, he represented a banking client that outsourced an ATM network to a large service provider. He made the move to outsourcing because the deals encompass a variety of practices and elements including mergers and acquisitions, intellectual property and data privacy.

"You can put all of this together in an outsourcing transaction," Brito said. "It makes each of these deals quite interesting."

Akin Gump's corporate practice co-chair, Ken Menges, who heads the Dallas office, praised the breadth of Brito's practice.

"We are very excited to welcome Michael to Akin Gump. Our clients will benefit immensely from the depth of skills that he brings to the firm," Menges said. "At a time when many companies are seeking new ways to remain competitive in a complex global marketplace, Michael's knowledge and experience will prove to be a tremendous asset."

--Editing by Lisa Uhlman.

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