



# Greenberg lawyer to head US-Mexico chamber of commerce in Miami

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31 May 2018



[Greenberg Traurig LLP](#) shareholder Antonio Peña has been appointed president of the Inter-American Chapter of the United States-Mexico Chamber of Commerce, and has become a member of its bi-national board of directors.



Greenberg Traurig announced Peña's appointment on 16 May. He is responsible for working with the chapter's executive committee to enhance trade and economic cooperation between

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Mexico and the US. “Our goal is to increase Mexican partnerships by leveraging the resources of Miami’s multinational companies, banks, funds and service providers which already have their Latin American operations based here,” Peña explains. He expects private investment and M&A activity between Miami and Mexico to continue to expand.

Peña’s appointment comes at a tough time for Mexican-US relations. US President Donald Trump is still threatening trade tariffs, while Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto [reiterated](#) as recently as yesterday that his country would not pay for a US-built border wall. Still, Peña is optimistic about the chamber’s ability to foster trade between the two countries. “We are in a new era in terms of the chamber’s scope of influence – we are surrounded by top leaders in Latin America who are committed to sharing ideas, influencing trade policy and encouraging economic cooperation with the US,” he says.

The US-Mexico chamber of commerce must also reckon with the [potential scrapping](#) of NAFTA and Mexico’s subsequent [shift](#) to East Asia. However, Peña is determined to see off anything that may damage the two countries’ trading relations. “Our job is to enhance what is working in trade and open markets, and to discourage protectionist policies that have failed in the past,” he says.

The Inter-American Chapter of the US-Mexico chamber of commerce was opened in Miami in 1997. Peña describes Miami as a natural hub for Latin American business opportunities. “Miami is already considered the unofficial capital of Latin America due to the number of multinational companies with Latin American headquarters here,” he explains. “The city also ranks at the top of the list for “ease of doing business” in Latin America, according to a 2017 ranking by the World Bank.”

Peña brings a Mexican and US background to the job. “It seems natural for me to serve in a position that is a bridge connecting the two countries that have mattered the most to me in both my personal and professional lives,” he says. With a Mexican father and American mother, relations between the two countries have always been close to home. He lived in Mexico until he was 16 and spent every summer in the US. The Greenberg lawyer also has a juris doctor degree in both Mexico and the US.

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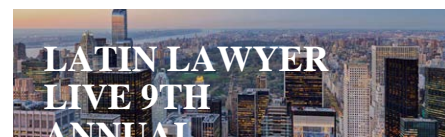
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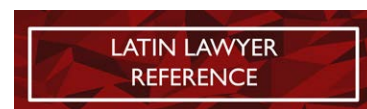
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