




St. George's, Grenada

**Debevoise  
& Plimpton**

## **Caribbean Practice**

Global Experience  
Local Perspective



Debevoise & Plimpton LLP is a premier international law firm with market-leading practices and a global presence.

We bring a distinctively high degree of quality, intensity, and creativity to resolve our clients' challenges effectively and cost efficiently.

Deep partner commitment, industry expertise, and a strategic approach enable us to bring clear commercial judgment to every matter.

By any measure, Debevoise is among the leading law firms in the world. Nearly 85% of our partners are recognized by the principal ranking directories. Approximately 650 lawyers work in nine offices across three continents, within integrated global practices. In 2017 alone, our international disputes practice handled over 120 matters worth in excess of US\$64 billion, involving parties from over 30 countries.

Debevoise's Caribbean practice advises local, regional, and international clients on a wide range of contentious and transactional matters, including investment treaty and commercial disputes, constitutional and public law issues, M&A, joint ventures, capital markets, hedge funds, project finance, insurance, and private equity transactions. Clients of the practice include governments and state-owned entities, Caribbean and international businesses, and all sectors of the financial services industry.

We provide expert advice tailored to our clients' circumstances. We recognize that as the economies of Caribbean nations continue to develop, their business and legal needs will evolve. We are committed to building long-term relationships with our clients to meet these evolving needs.

*The only firm ranked in Band 1 for both international arbitration and public international law in Chambers Global 2018.*

*"They have been excellent in terms of the strategy and understanding a cross-border environment. They work well with lawyers of other countries and have an ability to adjust to other cultures."*

*—Chambers Global*

**We leverage our experience in the region with a skilled team of attorneys from the Caribbean who understand the political, business, and legal contexts in which our Caribbean clients operate.**



## International Disputes

Our Caribbean-focused arbitration and litigation team has acted both for governments and corporate investors across the Caribbean - from Belize to Trinidad, and from Turks & Caicos to Grenada - in ground-breaking constitutional cases, and in complex, high-stakes, investment treaty and commercial arbitrations concerning disputes across all sectors.

We routinely advise states, international organizations, private companies, and individuals on the most complex international law matters, including treaty interpretation and enforcement; boundary disputes; investment disputes; universal and extraterritorial jurisdiction; privileges and immunities; and international environmental law. With a deep bench of experts in public international law, investor-state arbitration, commercial arbitration, and international litigation, we can bring the weight of this experience to bear on individual matters, including helping clients navigate disputes that cut across these disciplines.

### Select Representations

**The Government of Grenada**, in an ICSID arbitration brought by foreign investors in the national electric utility in a dispute arising from reforms in the electricity sector.

**OJSC Norilsk Nickel MMC and Interros International Investments Limited**, in a dispute with United Company Rusal, including LCIA arbitration proceedings and related court litigation in the St. Kitts & Nevis, United States, England, Russia, Switzerland, and The Netherlands.

**Herald Fund SPC**, a Cayman Islands hedge fund involved in multi-jurisdictional litigation concerning a \$2 billion exposure to the Madoff Ponzi Scheme, including hearings at the Cayman Grand Court and Court of Appeal.

**Ace Ltd.**, in the Grand Court of the Cayman Islands, in its long-running dispute with Liberia's Insurance Commissioner over losses arising from the Liberian Civil Wars.

A **Caribbean government** in connection with U.S. federal litigation relating to the Anti-Terrorism Act and the Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act.

*Representative clients of our firm's global litigation and international disputes practices:*

- The Government of the Republic of Korea
- The Government of Mexico
- American Airlines
- ExxonMobil
- GlaxoSmithKline
- Hyundai Heavy Industries
- JPMorgan Chase
- Rolls Royce

**“On a consistent basis, they are the best in the world for international arbitration.”**

—*Chambers USA*



# Our Engagement with the Caribbean Legal Community

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Our commitment to the Caribbean is deep. We believe that in addition to exemplary client service, it is important to invest in the development of the legal sector and to ensure that the Caribbean continues to grow as a center for international arbitration.

Our lawyers are committed participants in the institutions of the region and are invested in developing further the long-established relations we have across the Caribbean. We also partner with our clients, offering training to ensure that they keep abreast of evolving norms and developments in international law and dispute resolution.

For example:

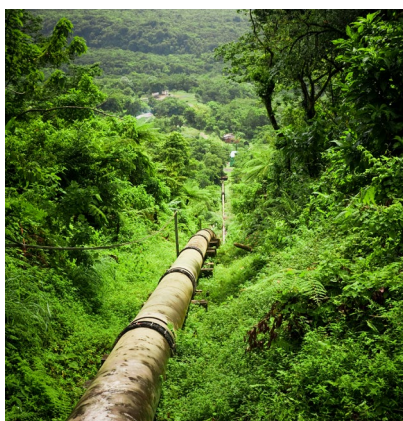
- Lord Goldsmith QC, co-Chair of the Caribbean Practice and former UK Attorney-General, has deep ties to the Caribbean legal community which stem from his time in government service.
- We are a founding member of the International Advisory Board of the Association of Caribbean Corporate Counsel.
- A number of our partners are on the Panel of Arbitrators of the BVI International Arbitration Centre.
- Dr. Conway Blake is the Caribbean representative in the Young International Arbitration Group of the London Court of International Arbitration.
- We write and speak frequently on topics relevant to the Caribbean legal community. In recent years, we have spoken at conferences and seminars throughout the region, including in Jamaica, Trinidad, the BVI, and the Bahamas. Past and forthcoming articles have been published in the ACC Journal and the Jamaica Bar Journal.



## Transactions

Debevoise's Caribbean practice advises local, regional, and international clients on a wide range of transactional matters, including M&A, joint ventures, capital markets, hedge funds, project finance, insurance, private equity transactions, and advisory work on regulatory liberalization. Clients of the practice include governments and state-owned entities, Caribbean and international businesses, and all sectors of the financial services industry.

The firm has advised governments in the Caribbean on investment and regulatory matters, and has a wealth of experience in helping clients to invest across the Caribbean. The team has advised on numerous headline acquisitions, including acting for the largest telephone company in Venezuela, and on the \$1.24 billion acquisition which created the leading brewer in the Caribbean.



### Select Representations

Advising a **Caribbean Government** on the negotiation of international financing documents, including revenue bonds.

**Companhia de Bebidas das Américas – AmBev** in its \$1.24 billion acquisition of indirect control of Cerveceria Nacional Dominicana (CND) and its strategic alliance with E. León Jimenes to create the leading brewer in the Caribbean.

**Ambev** in a tender offer to acquire a controlling stake in Banks Holdings Limited, a leading Caribbean brewery headquartered in St. Michael, Barbados.

**Verizon Communications, Inc.** and its subsidiary in connection with the sale of shares in Compañía Anónima Nacional Teléfonos de Venezuela (CANTV), the largest telephone company in Venezuela, to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, after the government announced that it intended to assume control of CANTV.

*Representative clients of our firm's global transactional practices:*

- Sovereign wealth investors
- Air France-KLM
- American Express
- Credit Suisse
- Johnson & Johnson
- Prudential Financial
- Verizon

**“They are a trusted adviser for us. They are always abreast of the market and really sophisticated in terms of the types of deals they do. They are extremely agile and very responsive; our board has complete confidence in them.”**

**— Chambers USA**

# Our team



## Lord Goldsmith, QC

Partner, London

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Lord Goldsmith QC, PC, is co-Chair of the Caribbean Practice, co-Chair of the Public International Law Group, and Chair of European and Asian Litigation at the firm. He has long-established relationships with clients across the Caribbean, and deep ties to the Caribbean legal community. He is a Member of the International Advisory Board of the Association of Caribbean Corporate Counsel. He was instrumental in establishing the BVI Arbitration Centre, and is on its Panel of Arbitrators. Lord Goldsmith regularly appears before courts across the Caribbean, including the Caribbean Court of Justice, the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court, and the Grand Court of the Cayman Islands. He operates at the highest levels of arbitration and litigation in the UK, and has appeared at all levels of courts in the UK and in many cases in the the UK Supreme Court, House of Lords, the Privy Council, and the Court of Appeal, as well as international and European courts and the courts of a number of other jurisdictions. He served as the UK's Attorney General from 2001-2007, prior to which he was in private practice as one of the leading barristers in London.

Consistently acknowledged for his prominence, *The American Lawyer* states that “[he has] the advocacy skills of one of the finest barristers of his generation.” He is recommended as a leading lawyer in *Chambers Global* 2018 and *Chambers UK* 2018 for International Arbitration, Public International Law, and Corporate Crime & Investigations.



## Natalie L. Reid

Partner, New York

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Natalie Reid is co-Chair of the Caribbean Practice, a partner in the International Disputes Group, and a member of the Public International Law Group. Her practice focuses on international arbitration, public international law, and complex commercial litigation matters.

A Jamaican national, she regularly acts as counsel in arbitrations arising under the rules of the major arbitral institutions. Her recent representations include disputes arising under bilateral investment treaties in South Asia and East Asia, and under contracts governed by New York law, Grenadian law, and international law.

Prior to joining Debevoise, Ms. Reid was an Associate Legal Officer at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, in the trial chamber of Judge Patrick Robinson of Jamaica.

*Legal 500 US* (2017) describes Ms. Reid as “excellent” and recommends her as a Next Generation Lawyer. Ms. Reid has been named a “Rising Star” in 2015 by the *New York Law Journal* and a “Future Leader” in *Who’s Who Legal: Arbitration* 2017 & 2018, which describes her as “an exceptional lawyer who stands out in complex cases” and “a great and very positive leader who values flexibility and teamwork.” Ms. Reid was also recognized as one of the “Top 250 Women in Litigation” and a “Local Litigation Star” for international arbitration in New York by *Benchmark Litigation* (2018).



### **Akima Paul Lambert**

International Counsel, London  
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Akima Paul Lambert is an international counsel and a member of the firm's Commercial Litigation and International Disputes Group. A Grenadian national, her practice focuses on complex commercial litigation, cross border investigations, and arbitration. She has advised on a wide range of disputes involving banking and financial services and on arbitration, regulatory enforcement and competition matters.

Mrs. Paul Lambert was also recently appointed as Grenada's non-resident ambassador to the Holy See.

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### **Conway Blake**

Senior Associate, London  
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Conway Blake is a senior associate in the International Disputes Group. A Jamaican national, he represents clients on a range of disputes, including investor-state arbitration, public international law disputes, and commercial arbitrations. His clients include corporates and states from jurisdictions in the Caribbean, Europe, Asia, the Middle East, and Africa. He also acts in proceedings before local and regional courts, including the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council and the Caribbean Court of Justice.

Dr. Blake is a law graduate of the University of the West Indies, and holds a Masters and PhD in law from the University of Cambridge. He currently serves as the Caribbean's regional representative in the Young International Arbitration Group of the London Court of International Arbitration.

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### **Adam Moss**

Associate, New York  
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Adam Moss is an associate in the Litigation Department.

A Jamaican national, Mr. Moss joined Debevoise in 2015. He received a J.D. in 2015 from Columbia Law School, where he was a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar and president of the Columbia International Arbitration Association. He received an A.B., cum laude, from Harvard College in 2010.

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