# Armengol Igartua Vazquez

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# OBJECTIVE:

To guarantee the success of an organization, contributing with my leadership, legal expertise, professional and supervisory experience, work ethic and ability to communicate in Spanish and English.

#### EDUCATION

2006 Pontifical Catholic University Ponce, PR

- Juris Doctor
- Admitted to the Puerto Rico State Bar. Lic. 18210.
- Licensed Notary Public. Lic. 17023.

2003 University of Puerto Rico Rio Piedras, PR

- Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration.
- Major in Accounting.

#### **EXPERIENCE**

August/2010-June/2013

Puerto Rico Police Department

San Juan, PR

Senior Legal Advisor (present)/Legal Affairs Director (August 2010-July 2012)

- Provide legal counsel and legal representation to the Superintendent.
- Provides legislative policy advice, guidance and recommendations on all legislative issues affecting law enforcement programs, personnel programs and other related legislative matters.
- Analyzes public law, Legislative and Congressional records and computer databases to identify potential impacts on law enforcement programs and issues
- Issued more than fifty (50) recommendations on courses of action within the Legislative process on all areas of impact on the Agency.
- Lead and actively participated in several task forces assigned to areas which
  draw the specifications for legislation, the discussion of possible legislative
  strategy with key prospective sponsors of the legislation, including the
  presentation of technical analyses.
- Directed and advised in all stages in the development of legislative policy in support of law enforcement programs.
- Prepared the Superintendent and other witnesses for twenty five (25) or more testimonies before the Legislature.
- Drafted and issued forty two (42) legal opinions interpreting case laws, statutes, regulations, directives, proposed bills and contractual relationships.
- Negotiated more than fifty (50) judicial settlements.
- Drafted and implemented more than twenty (20) new policies and guidelines related to Criminal Procedure, Immigration, Civil Rights, Administrative Law and Constitutional Law.

- Restructured the internal organization of the Office of Legal Affairs by implementing a more efficient and streamlined process to handle legal documents and administrative complaints among others.
- Created a new division in charge of handling federal requirements mandates and subpoena called the Legal Requirement Division.
- Managed outside counsel relationships and work product.
- Oversaw all aspects of legal administration on behalf of the Agency, including contract review, negotiation, and interpretation; legal review of proposed operational policies, and other legal issues as needed.
- Created, implemented and managed various agency administrative policies and procedures.
- Provided onsite active counsel and negotiation during strikes.
- Prepared legal documents and motions before the administrative and judicial forums.
- In charge of the implementation of a new Police Reform Program based on the Federal Investigation by the United States Justice Department (2010- 2011).
- Prepared legal briefs that served as final determinations with legal analysis to support decisions on sensitive and complex hearings and appeals cases involving police misconduct.
- Conducted interviews, analyzed, reviewed evidence and researched appropriate information provided by witnesses to develop final resolutions.
- Analyzed and issued final decisions to impose discipline based on police misconduct investigations.
- Developed, implemented and supervised a new police misconduct program for the entire police force.
- Lead Director in one of the most complex police misconduct cases of the Puerto Rico Police Department, in which were discharged sixty one (61) members for their arrest in the "Guard Shack Operative" by the FBI.
- Directed, supervised and trained the hearing officials of the Police Misconduct Hearing Department.
- Directed the assessing of threats of violence, vandalism and damage to the public property during a prolonged strike at the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus.
- Prepared a strategic plan to address threats of violence, vandalism and damage to the public property as well as other possible threats during a strike at the University of PR, by assigning a team of lawyers in key points to supervise public encounters with the police.
- Consolidated and analyzed all reports from team lawyers located at the University of Puerto Rico during the strike, and created a final report, that also included the budget used during this strategic plan, for the Superintendent of Police.
- Active communication with the media (e.g., TV, newspaper), written and oral during the strike at the University of Puerto Rico.
- Negotiated agreements and facilitated communication to reach consensus among the parties involved, during the strike at the University of Puerto Rico.
- Facilitated the collaboration and information sharing between the Superintendence of Professional Responsibility, Human Resources and the Office of Legal Affairs with the creation of Standard Operation Procedures (SOP).

- Trained attorneys in the new police misconduct program and Civil Rights. (2012)
- Created the Protocol for Inspection, Search and Seizure of Cargo Containers received by the Puerto Rico Maritime Container Terminal for the purpose of drugs and illegal firearms detection; formed the Cargo Containers Inspection Unit (C.C.I.U.) and trained its personnel.
- Developed and supervised legal procedural guidelines to handle drugs and illegal firearms found in Containers at port.
- Developed, promoted and maintained interagency collaborations between the Department of Justice, Custom Border Patrol, Department of Treasury, Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms, and the Police Department of Puerto Rico when seizing drugs and illegal firearms.
- Served as the Lead Negotiator of the collective bargaining contract regarding the salaries of over 1,000 public employees of the Police Department, saving the department 4 million dollars after 6 months of bargaining.
- Collected and analyzed data from all the operational, procedural and administrative offices in the Agency (PR Police Dept.) representing the Superintendent's Office, in order to establish regulations and prepare depositions for individual legal projects and its presentation before the Senate and several administrative agencies.
- In charge of analyzing legal cases against the Puerto Rico Police Department, achieving satisfactory resolutions that saved thousands of dollars to the Agency (PR Police Dept.)
- Supervised over forty (40) employees in the Office of Legal Affairs at the Agency.
- Legal Adviser in charge of revising and drafting more than fifty (50) contracts with governmental agencies and private companies.
- Designed various memorandum of understanding (M.O.U.) between the police & different federal and state law and order agencies. (i.e. Custom Border Patrol, Puerto Rico Department of Treasury, Office of U.S. Attorneys, Puerto Rico Department of Justice, Department of Housing and Public Development., Dominican Republic Consulate)

# March/2009-August/2012

# Puerto Rico Police Department

San Juan, PR

Special Assistant of the Superintendent

- Provided timely and accurate advice and services to support the control and management of legal risk.
- Represented the Agency in public hearings before the Legislative Chambers using multimodal presentations.
- Independently responded directly to inquiries form Legislative commissions regarding detailed law enforcement issues; provided policy guidance and tasked agencies to provide inputs.
- In charge of establishing the strategy and recognized in 2009, 2010 and 2011 by the Government Budget Legislative Commission for the preparation of Puerto Rico Police Department Budget Position Statement addressed by the Superintendent during those legislative hearings.

- Participated actively in the approval of more than fifty (50) bills, through constant communication with senators, advisers and agency secretaries.
- Drafted and promoted the approval of more than twenty five (25) bills. (i.e. Law 237-2010, Law 35-2011)
- Monitored and coordinated proposed legislation pertaining to law enforcement issues.
- Conferred with state agencies, legislators, mayors and lobbyists.
- Originated weekly bill summaries and status reports and drafted news releases and responded to letters from constituents.
- Prepared, presented and defended the agency's budget of \$800 million before the Senate.
- Assisted with documentation review, contractual certainty, drafting and amending contracts and supporting documentation.
- Prepared and presented more than one hundred (100) position papers before the Legislative Chambers discussing proposed laws and issuing recommendations to guarantee its effectiveness.

June/2008-March/2009

Lcdo. Armengol Igartúa Vázquez

Coamo, PR

Attorney

- Represented clients before state courts and governmental agencies.
- Independently handled all aspects of cases from inception to completion.
- Prepared pleadings and other legal documents in connection with trials, hearings and other legal procedures.
- Ensured open lines of communication and satisfaction of deadlines through execution of dated correspondence.
- Performed extensive computerized and law library research to obtain and gather case-relevant data and materials, using independent judgment, discretion and initiative.
- Conducted client intake and client interviews.
- Worked closely with clients updating them on case status.
- Researched legal issues pertaining to rules of procedure for minors' matters, Identity theft, Family law, TORTS Claims, Criminal Law and the Americans with disabilities act.
- Drafted answers to interrogatories, requests for production of documentation and evidence.
- Introduced evidence, performed direct and cross-examinations of witnesses, and made objections in court.

### AWARDS/ORGANIZATIONS

2009 -2012 Member- Police Rank Promotion Exam Board

2009 -2012 President- Government Ethics Committee

2009	-2012	President – Private Detective Exam Board
2009	-2010	Legal Advisor - Security Agencies Equipment Acquisition Board
2008		Member Puerto Rico Bar Association.
2001		Phi Eta Mu College Fraternity (Alpha Chapter).
1993		Eagle Scout Award, Troop 822, Quebradillas.

## **SKILLS**

- Proven ability to build consensus, resolve conflict, motivate participation, work under pressure and reach deadlines.
- Established skills of assessing needs, addressing both spoken and unspoken concerns, developing solutions.
- Fluent in both Spanish and English.
- Strong communicative skills.
- Willing to travel and relocate.