

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Editorial Board of the Ninth Volume began this experience with a fresh attitude and committed to fostering the development and growth of the *University of Puerto Rico Business Law Journal* (hereinafter, the Journal). However, we could have never had expected that, on September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017, Puerto Rico would suffer the passage of Hurricane María, which was closely preceded by Hurricane Irma. Certainly, the passing of these catastrophic storms put our Island on hold and impacted our work plan moving forward. The lack of electric power, Internet service, and a distraught population posed threats and circumstances that we did not count on when setting up our plan for the Ninth Volume. Nevertheless, we could not let the storm stop us in our tracks. Accordingly, aware of the importance of the Journal for the legal debate in Puerto Rico, we regrouped and restructured our goals for the Ninth Volume to better accommodate the trying times ahead.

In the Ninth Volume, we continued with the mission of our Founding Board: to generate a suitable space for the dissemination of knowledge related to the legal issues of commercial activity; thus promoting the discussion of issues that promote Puerto Rico's economic development. Given that Commercial and Corporate Law is a fundamental piece in the legal framework that favors the creation of the Island's wealth, the discussion of related issues takes on greater relevance given the precarious economic situation of Puerto Rico. However, these conversations should not remain limited to the law school classrooms. Peer-reviewed journals are the ideal forum for publication and large-scale dissemination of writings on these issues.

Notwithstanding the obstacles that plagued this academic year, the Journal's Ninth Volume is comprised of thirty-one hard-working and committed students, the largest editorial body and support staff in the Journal's history. Over the course of this Volume, our editors demonstrated the necessary skills and impetus to achieve each of the objectives set. Our editors are characterized by their leadership, organization, companionship, empathy, perseverance, ingenuity, effort, responsibility, and commitment. Furthermore, they have excellent writing and editing skills. We can attest that their work during the Ninth Volume is evidence of the great quality of attorneys that will enter the legal profession in the coming years.

The Journal celebrated its Induction Ceremony on January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Dean Vivian Neptune Rivera welcomed attendees with a motivating message in lieu of the hurricanes' aftermath. Dean Neptune also highlighted the Journal's accomplishments, its relevance in the legal and academic community, and expressed her faith in the publication's continued growth. Further, we were privileged to have Honorable Ángel Colón Pérez, Associate Justice of Puerto Rico's Supreme Court, as the guest speaker of our Induction Ceremony. His address touched upon themes of professional ethics and highlighted the importance maximizing our time in Law School, while sharpening our writing skills for the legal profession and taking part in extracurricular activities, such as a law review. We are extremely thankful for Justice Colón Pérez's address and disposition to be a part of such an important event for our editors, writers, and collaborators.

We wish to express our deepest and most sincere gratitude to those at the University of Puerto School of Law that have helped us along the way and for their continued support of the Journal: Vivian Neptune Rivera, Dean, and María de los Ángeles Garay, Dean of Administration, for their valuable assistance with our activities and funding; Ivonne M. Martínez Correa, our Office Administrator, for her continued help in the Journal's day-to-day operation and in coordinating our activities; Professor Antonio Escudero, our Academic Advisor, for his unwavering support; and Professor Antonio García Padilla, our Academic Advisor, for his commitment to the publication of student articles of outstanding quality and his guidance in publishing the Ninth Volume's Second Number.

The skilled performance of our Editorial Body is reflected in the content of both Numbers, which contain high quality articles. Our Ninth Volume covers a variety of topics, including: arbitration, mediation, execution of mortgages, banking law, trusts, international commercial law, contracts, and other corporate issues. The diversity of topics published in the Ninth Volume reflects the wide range of issues discussed and disseminated through our specialized publication. The topics covered in this Volume reflect relevant topics to the contemporary legal practitioner, but to business, corporate, and policymaking readers. We hope that readers find the articles included as engaging, interesting, and pertinent as we did when we selected them.

Finally, as the Ninth Volume Editorial Board's parting words, we wish the best of success to the incoming Editorial Board and to the editors that will continue their work with the Journal. We hope that the Journal is a forum where you develop your skills and potential to the fullest, and we urge you to make the most of your time in this academic space and at the same time aspire to continue working for the success of this publication. We hope that the Journal's Tenth Volume is one that meets the expectations of all past and future Board members and that it properly commemorates this significant milestone for the *University of Puerto Rico Business Law Journal*.

With our best regards,

Editorial Board  
Ninth Volume  
University of Puerto Rico Business Law Journal