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### **Educational/Professional Memberships**

- Ateneo de Manila University School of Law, Juris Doctor (Class of 1997, class salutatorian and recipient of Evelio Javier Leadership Award);
- Ateneo de Manila University, Bachelor of Science in Management, Major in Legal Management (Class of 1993)
- Admitted to the Philippine Bar in 1998; Member, Integrated Bar of the Philippines (1998 to present)
- Member, Philippine Dispute Resolution Center, Inc. (2015 to present)
- Member, Philippine Institute of Arbitrators or PIArb (2017 to present)
- Vice President for International Initiatives, Philippine Institute of Arbitrators or PIArb (2018 to 2019)

### **Current Position**

Managing Partner & Co-Head of Disputes, Gatmaytan Yap Patacsil Gutierrez & Protacio (C&G Law)

### **Professional Experience/Areas of Expertise**

Ben specializes in litigation and arbitration, and also has significant experience in corporate and commercial transaction work in the energy sector.

Ben's litigation and arbitration experience led him to be named by *AsiaLaw* as a leading Philippine lawyer in dispute resolution and litigation from 2015 to 2019, and as *Disputes Star of the Year for the Philippines* for 2018. His experience in these fields also led him to be named by Chambers Asia-Pacific as a leading Philippine lawyer in Dispute Resolution: Arbitration in its 2015 to 2019 Asia-Pacific publications, as well as a leading Philippine lawyer in Dispute Resolution in its 2018 and 2019 editions. Chambers Asia-Pacific currently ranks him in Band 1 in Dispute Resolution: Arbitration among lawyers in the Philippines. He has also been recognised as a leading Philippine individual in Dispute Resolution by The Legal 500 Asia Pacific from 2015 to 2019. Legal500 currently ranks him in Tier 1 in Dispute Resolution among lawyers in the Philippines. Asia Business Law Journal has also recently named him as among the Philippines' Top 100 Lawyers.

In addition, Ben's corporate and commercial work earned him citations as a leading Philippine lawyer in the corporate/commercial field by Chambers Asia-Pacific in its 2012 to 2014, and 2018 and 2019, Asia-Pacific publications.

Prior to founding C&G Law in February 2007, Ben was a junior associate (from 1998 to 2003) and senior associate (from 2003 until 2007) at SyCip Salazar Hernandez & Gatmaitan.

### **Arbitration Experience**

- Sitting as an arbitrator in a multi-million peso ad hoc arbitration involving a Philippine-government owned and controlled corporation and a pool of insurers. The arbitration is seated in Manila.
- Acting as an ICC-appointed neutral expert (on Philippine law) in an ICC arbitration involving an American company and a Philippine company. The arbitration was seated in Manila.
- Acting as secretary to an arbitral tribunal chaired by former Philippine Supreme Court Justice and World Trade Organisation appellate body Chairman Florentino P. Feliciano. The arbitration was seated in Manila.
- Heading the firm's team as co-counsel for a leading Philippine importer and wholesale distributor of liquified petroleum gas ("LPG") in a multi-million dollar arbitration before the Singapore International Arbitration Centre against a former LPG supplier. The arbitration is seated in Singapore.
- Heading the firm's team as counsel for one of the world's largest multinational cement and building materials companies in a multi-billion peso arbitration (including emergency arbitration proceedings) before the Philippine Dispute Resolution Center, Inc. (an arbitral institution based in the Philippines) against its counter-party in a Port Services Agreement. The arbitration is seated in Manila.
- Heading the firm's team as Philippine counsel for one of the world's largest multinational chocolate and confectionery companies in a multi-million dollar arbitration before the International Chamber of Commerce ("ICC") and related court proceedings in the Philippines against a former distributor of the company's products in the Philippines. The dispute was eventually settled to the satisfaction of the client. The arbitration was seated in Hong Kong.
- Heading the firm's team as Philippine counsel for a leading Philippine geothermal power generation company in a multi-million dollar ICC arbitration involving disputes with its turnkey contractor. The dispute was eventually settled to the satisfaction of the client. The arbitration was seated in Singapore.
- Heading the firm's team as Philippine counsel for two Philippine solar industry companies in the successful prosecution of a multi-million dollar ICC arbitration against their American counterparty. The arbitration was seated in Hong Kong.
- Heading the firm's team as Philippine counsel for two Philippine solar industry companies in the successful prosecution of a multi-million dollar ICC arbitration against their Korean counterparty. The arbitration was seated in Hong Kong.
- Heading the firm's team as Philippine counsel for a leading Philippine geothermal power generation company in a multi-million dollar ICC arbitration (including emergency arbitration proceedings) and related court proceedings in the Philippines, Singapore and England against one of its contractors. The dispute was eventually settled to the satisfaction of the client. The arbitration was seated in Singapore.

- Heading the firm's team in a multi-million dollar ICC arbitration involving a leading Philippine power generation company and two major multinational oil companies. The disputes were eventually settled to the satisfaction of the client. The arbitration was seated in Hong Kong.
- Assisting a leading Philippine hydro-energy company in a multi-million dollar ICC arbitration and several court proceedings against its turnkey contractor. The arbitration was seated in Singapore.

### **Publications**

Co-authored the Philippine chapter of Chambers' Global Practice Guide: International Arbitration 2016 published by Chambers & Partners of the UK in 2015.

Co-authored the Philippine chapter of The Dispute Resolution Review, 5<sup>th</sup> Ed. published by the Law Business Research Ltd of the UK in 2013.

Co-authored several articles on doing business and dispute resolution published by the American Bar Association in 2005, 2006 and 2010.

### **Languages**

English, Filipino