

Garcia-Moreno in Legal Business: ‘The Energy Capital of the World’ – Why the Global and U.S. Elite Are Betting on Houston

February 4, 2026 Ricardo Garcia-Moreno

PRACTICES Latin America Caribbean, Mexico, International

In a recent article for *Legal Business*, Haynes Boone Houston Office Managing Partner [Ricardo Garcia-Moreno](#) shared his thoughts on Houston’s emergence as one of the top legal markets in the U.S., fueled by economic growth, competition for talent and increased investment.

Read an excerpt below.

Hiring data tracked by legal market intelligence provider Surepoint highlights the city’s growth more starkly than individual moves.

In 2024, Houston saw a total of 104 lateral partner hires into top 100 US firms, up from 53 in 2023 and 96 in 2022. ...

The 2024 GDP of Texas was nearly \$2.8trn – the second largest of any state in the US behind California, and enough to put it in the top ten largest GDPs by country, ahead of Italy, Russia, Canada, and Brazil.

Helping this GDP position is the fact that Texas touts itself as a business-friendly environment, home to the headquarters of 54 Fortune 500 companies, as well as to one in ten of all publicly traded companies in the US. ...

Other firms too see opportunities there. ‘It’s very easy for investment to flow in and out of the United States through Houston,’ says Ricardo Garcia-Moreno, Houston office managing partner at Haynes Boone. ‘For many years, a certain city in Florida advertised itself as the gateway to Latin America, but that has changed, and in particular with respect to opportunities with Mexico.’

[Read the full article on *Legal Business* here.](#)