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RETAIL PRACTICE TEAM ALERT

Amendments to the Puerto Rico Closing Law

Act No. 115 of July 30, 2010 has amended Article 3 of the Puerto Rico Closing Law, Act No. 1 of December 1, 1989 ("Act No. 1"). The amendment is effective retroactively as of November 16, 2009.

The amendment provides that those commercial establishments located within zones designated as tourist, old or historic, are exempt from the closing provisions of Act No. 1, regardless of whether they sell goods or provide services of tourist interest. Furthermore, any other establishment dedicated primarily to the sale of goods or provision of services of tourist interest is also exempt, regardless of its location.

Act No. 115 also authorizes municipal legislatures to regulate the hours of operation of commercial establishments within the tourist zones that sell alcoholic beverages, or of those establishments that disturb the peace of the residents of such zones.

If you have any questions, or wish additional information regarding this matter, please contact any of the attorneys of the Labor and Employment Law Practice Group or Retail Practice Team:

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