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## Antonio R. Franco

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## **Practice Areas**

Government Contracts False Claims Act Native American Law & Tribal Advocacy Bid Protests

## **Education**

Georgetown University Law Center, J.D., 1986 Tulane University, B.A., 1983, *cum laude* 

**University of Madrid**, Junior Year Abroad Honors Program, 1982

## **Bar/Court Admissions**

District of Columbia Maryland Florida U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida U.S. District Court, District of Columbia U.S. Court of Federal Claims U.S. District Court, District of Maryland Tony has over 30 years of experience representing government contractors and commercial businesses. His practice encompasses all aspects of federal government contracting. Tony also works closely with attorneys in the Firm's Business & Transactions Group on corporate transactions and the Labor & Employment Group to address employer-employee challenges in the highly regulated market of government contracting. Tony has also achieved an "AV Preeminent" rating from Martindale-Hubbell, which is the highest peer rating, signifying many of Tony's peers rank him at the highest level of professional excellence for his legal knowledge, communication skills, and ethical standards.

Tony counsels clients on a wide range of complex legal and regulatory matters, including (i) protests and claims against the federal government; (ii) commercial and contractual disputes; (iii) investigations and compliance audits; (iv) suspension and debarment proceedings; and (v) entity formation, including joint ventures, operating agreements, and shareholder agreements.

Tony primarily represents government contractors interested in pursuing set-aside opportunities under SBA's small business programs—the 8(a), HUBZone, SDVOSB, WOSB, and All Small Mentor-Protégé Program. He advises firms on teaming, joint ventures, and strategies to defend awards from size, status, and bid protests. Tony also assists firms in complying with the FAR and rules applicable to all small business contracting programs. Tony's practice also encompasses the representation of Tribes, Alaska Native Corporations, and their government contracting subsidiaries.

Tony is fluent in Spanish.