

LATINLAWYER

Partner returns to Siqueira Castro after less than a year at Felsberg

A labour lawyer who left Siqueira Castro Advogados in June has returned shortly after he was appointed Felsberg Advogados' labour head in Rio de Janeiro.

Siqueira Castro announced the hire of André de Souza Santos, 45, for its São Paulo office on 10 April. Santos will work closely with practice co-heads Otavio Pinto e Silva and Manuela Tavares. He increases the firm's total partner count to 80.

Santos worked at Siqueira Castro until June of last year, when he left for [Felsberg Advogados](#). He was then [promoted](#) as labour head in Rio de Janeiro last November.

Felsberg managing partner Thomas Felsberg says Santos' desire to move from Rio de Janeiro to São Paulo prompted his departure. "André is an excellent professional and left the firm on very good terms. Since his transfer to São Paulo was not in our long-term strategy, it made sense for him to return to Siqueira Castro," he explains.

Latin Lawyer contacted Siqueira Castro to get comment from Santos on his departure. According to a statement provided by the firm, he decided to rejoin Siqueira Castro because of projects and clients who are located in both Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo. *Latin Lawyer* understands that while Santos will be based in São Paulo, he will also spend considerable time in Rio de Janeiro.

Siqueira Castro partner and CEO Carlos Fernando Siqueira Castro is delighted to have Santos back. "Our clients and our team throughout Brazil have long known and admired him, and his return comes at a more than opportune moment," he says. "He will be a valuable reinforcement, due to his excellence and extensive experience, and that's not to mention our pleasure in welcoming a dear friend to work with us again."

Santos is the third labour partner Siqueira Castro has hired this year. The firm already [bolstered](#) its São Paulo and Recife offices by making a double lateral hire

in January.

Felsberg has also restocked its labour practice. The firm responded to Santos' imminent departure by [hiring](#) Ana Cristina Valentim from KLA - Koury Lopes Advogados last month. The firm's labour practice is led by São Paulo-based Maurício Pepe De Lion. Felsberg counts 23 partners in total.

While the Temer administration recently overhauled the country's labour code, most firms have used lateral hires to strengthen their corporate and M&A departments this year. Of the 27 hires reported to *Latin Lawyer*, 10 have involved lawyers who focus on that practice.

<https://goo.gl/3ebrdZ>