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My time at Hogan Lovells' Mexico City office was a truly rewarding experience. At the firm, I was given the opportunity to research the developing antitrust regime that governs the Mexican oil industry and telecommunications sector. More specifically, I was often tasked with analyzing the anticipated effect of Mexican jurisprudence on American interests operating in Mexico. Similarly, I would also be expected to lend insight to areas of common law that were relevant to the firm's cases. And, of course, there was plenty of translating to be done.

In my experience, Hogan Lovells is a unique blend of a high-profile firm with extraordinary expertise and the family oriented values often associated with a small firm environment. While the attorneys there are experts in their respective fields, they are still down to earth people with a kindness that can't be rivaled elsewhere. On a number of occasions, I was escorted throughout the city by a member of the firm. During these excursions, I was treated out to excellent meals and amazing tourist attractions, as well as given the opportunity to interact with some of the greatest legal minds in Latin America. Although Spanish is obviously the official language of Mexico, many of the firm's attorneys and staff members are fluent in English and will help you with any of your problems at work. With that said, a working knowledge of Spanish is necessary to take full advantage of this internship.

Living in Mexico City is an excellent opportunity for anyone hoping to gain experience in the realm of international law. After all, limiting one's self to a textbook can never supplant the very real experience a person obtains from traveling and experiencing different cultures first hand. The very busy city is easily navigable if you utilize one of the several modes of mass transportation the city has to offer; the Metro is of particular importance in this regard since it provides an extremely fast method of reaching your destination while still being affordable. Also, city buses are an option, as are *Sitios* (or Site Taxis). The office itself is located in the area of Cuajimalpa, which does not have access to the Metro or a bus; therefore, a *Sitio* is the best option for getting to work, while the Metro will likely be used during the weekend for sightseeing. For lunch many people grab a bite to eat at a local vendor set up outside during the

day or from a restaurant in the attached shopping mall. Another issue to keep in mind is that the lunch period is much longer than what is expected in the U.S. On a similar note, many of the native interns (*pasantes*) are not present throughout the entire day since they return to school for later hours. However, this is nothing to worry about since the friendly atmosphere of the firm will help you make plenty of friends to keep you company.