

# Legal Media 360 Awards Report

## Philippines



# Introduction

Legal awards acknowledge the market recognition of a law firm and lawyer's success, ability, effort and, above all, excellence.

While **rankings** consider the accumulation of a firm or lawyer's efforts year-on-year, **awards** represent the achievements of firms or lawyers during the past 12 months. Awards can be viewed as being more significant than rankings because being shortlisted or winning an award means a firm or lawyer is one of a very select number of parties considered to be "the best".

**Legal Media 360's Awards Reports** consolidate the nominations and winners of the most reputable international and regional awards, showcasing the top performers by jurisdiction.



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11/F Crawford House  
70 Queen's Road Central  
Central  
Hong Kong SAR

Tel: +852 8199 0059

Email: [contact@legalmedia360.com](mailto:contact@legalmedia360.com)



# Methodology

Atomic awards data is categorized, and naming conventions standardized. This highlights which firms, lawyers, cases and deals are receiving the greatest recognition via a nomination/win ratio. Awards data from the following sources are used in our research:

*Asian Legal Business, ALM, asialaw, Benchmark Litigation, China Business Law Journal, Chambers and Partners, China Law and Practice, India Business Law Journal, International Financial Law Review, In-house Community, Legal 500, Managing IP.*

The awards period used for our research is January to December 2022.

Legal Media 360's awards analysis splits firm awards into two distinct categories: Firm awards and Case/deal awards.



# Award Categories

## Firm Awards

Firm awards include categories such as practice area specific awards, practice management, diversity and inclusion and firm-wide awards (such as firm of the year).

*The following data is for Philippines.*

**Table 1: Top 20 firms by highest number of firm award nominations**

Firm Name	Nominations	Win	Win %
ACCRALAW	25	15	60%
Villaraza & Angangco	23	4	17%
Gorriceta Africa Cauton & Saavedra	22	1	5%
Cruz Marcelo & Tenefrancia	21	7	33%
Gulapa Law	21	2	10%
VAL Law	21	2	10%
SyCip Salazar Hernandez & Gatmaitan	19	16	84%
Gatmaytan Yap Patacsil Gutierrez & Protacio	15	1	7%
Quisumbing Torres	15	5	33%
DivinaLaw	13	3	23%
Poblador Bautista & Reyes	8	1	13%
Insights Philippines Legal Advisors	7	1	14%
Romulo Mabanta Buenaventura Sayoc & de los Angeles	7	5	71%
Romulo Yap Law Office	6	6	100%
Cerilles & Fernan IP Law	5	0	0%
Sarmiento Loriega Law Office	5	1	20%
Castillo & Bello	4	0	0%
Federis & Associates	4	2	50%
Picazo Buyco Tan Fider & Santos	4	4	100%
Tolosa Javier Law	4	0	0%

**Commentary:** In 2022, a total of 55 law firms were nominated for firm related awards. 34 of these firms won awards. While ACCRALAW were nominated for the greatest number of awards, SyCip Salazar Hernandez & Gatmaitan narrowly won the most. Of the top 10 firms, SyCip Salazar Hernandez & Gatmaitan had the best nomination to win ratio, winning 84% of the 19 firm awards which they were nominated for.



## Case/Deal Awards

Case/deal awards recognise the firms working on the most significant matters in the past 12 months.

**Table 2: Top firms by highest number of case/deal award nominations**

Firm Name	Nominations	Win	Win %
ACCRA LAW	10	1	10%
Picazo Buyco Tan Fider & Santos	9	2	22%
SyCip Salazar Hernandez & Gatmaitan	9	2	22%
Romulo Mabanta Buenaventura Sayoc & de los Angeles	7	0	0%
Puyat Jacinto & Santos	4	0	0%
Cruz Marcelo & Tenefrancia	3	0	0%
Gatmaytan Yap Patacsil Gutierrez & Protacio	2	0	0%
Castillo Laman Tan Pantaleon & San Jose	1	0	0%
Gorriceta Africa Cauton & Saavedra	1	0	0%
PunoLaw	1	0	0%
Quisumbing Torres	1	0	0%
Serrano Law	1	1	100%

**Commentary:** In 2022, four firms won at least one case/deal awards out of the 13 firms nominated firms. Case/deal awards mostly relates to significant cross border work and the low nomination to win ratio suggests Philippines law firms were not active in the most significant matters in the APAC region.



## Lawyer Awards

In the 12 publications examined, a total of 44 lawyers from 22 firms were nominated for awards. 35 male lawyers were nominated, compared with nine female lawyers. The gender ratio of male-female lawyer nominations is 80 to 20 percent.

Only Alejandro Alfonso Navarro from Villaraza & Angangco won an award.

## Nomination Statistics

**Table 3: Firms with the highest number of lawyer award nominations**

Firm Name	Nominations
Gulapa Law	5
Poblador Bautista & Reyes	5
VAL Law	5
ACCRA LAW	4
Gorriceta Africa Cauton & Saavedra	4
Cruz Marcelo & Tenefrancia	3
SKY Law	3
Quisumbing Torres	2
DivinaLaw	2
Federis & Associates	2
Panelo Law Office	2
R Uy - San Juan & Associates Law Firm	2
Sarmiento Loriega Law Office	2
Abo and Penaranda	1
Aquende Ania Que & Associates	1
Cerilles & Fernan IP Law	1
EPEEQ Law	1
Godinez Villanueva Espiritu & Soliman	1
Platon Martinez Flores San Pedro & Leaño	1
Siguion Reyna Montecillo & Ongsiako	1
Tolosa Javier Law	1
Villaraza & Angangco	1



**Table 4: Nominated lawyers**

Lawyer Name	Firm Name	Gender
Elizabeth Peralta-Loriega	Sarmiento Loriega Law Office	Female
Enrique Dela Cruz Jr	DivinaLaw	Male
Mila Federis	Federis & Associates	Female
Paolo Abarquez	VAL Law	Male
Rachel Uy-San Juan	R Uy-San Juan & Associates Law Firm	Female
Salvador Paolo Panelo Jr	Panelo Law Office	Male
Alejandro Alfonso Navarro	Villaraza & Angangco	Male

## Winner Statistics

**Table 5: Winning firm**

Firm Name
Villaraza & Angangco

**Table 6: Winner lawyer**

Lawyer Name	Firm Name	Gender
Alejandro Alfonso Navarro	Villaraza & Angangco	Male

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