

# Control Risks

## Michael Heller

Senior Consultant

Corporate Investigations/Business Intelligence

Michael Heller is a Senior Consultant within Control Risks' Corporate Investigations/Business Intelligence practice in Los Angeles. In this role, Michael is focused on helping clients increase transparency in complex or hostile business environments and enabling them to better allocate investment capital and resources. His academic and professional experience has been dedicated to understanding the commercial environment in jurisdictions where the rule of law is not well-developed, and providing clients with creative, solution-driven advice.

Some of Michael's recent work at Control Risks includes:

- Managing a pre-IPO due diligence review of a Brazilian entity on behalf of a major investment bank.
- Conducting tailored market research for a multinational corporation. This research enabled the client to develop an acquisition strategy related to a particular target.
- Conducting an investigation of a fund manager and potential partner of a late-stage venture capital firm.
- Managing the US component of a project enabling a private equity firm to better understand why a portfolio company lost a key account and helping to determine what other accounts might be at risk.
- Collaborating with team members to draft an ethics policy for Control Risks' Business Intelligence practice.
- Presenting on pre-IPO due diligence on a panel at the 2010 Annual Meeting of the American Bar Association.

Subsequent to completing his law degree, Michael served as a consultant with the Business Intelligence Group, and later the Anti-Money Laundering Group at Goldman Sachs & Co in New York City. At Goldman, Michael worked with counsel to conduct domestic and internationally-focused investigative due diligence reviews of transactions involving equities, investment banking and private wealth management.

Michael has completed internships at the US Department of State in Tirana, Albania and under the General Counsel of Publicis Groupe in Paris, France. Prior to attending law school, Michael worked on global security issues as a research assistant at The Henry L. Stimson Center in Washington, D.C. As a college student, Michael founded InterChange Sport, Inc., which manufactured, marketed, and distributed a patented three-in-one cycling jersey (U.S. Patent: 6,298,485). The jersey, which was featured on the cover of *Mountain Bike Action* magazine, was produced with a manufacturing partner in China and distributed via e-commerce through a subcontracted fulfillment center in Silicon Valley. It was also sold in multiple retail stores in the United States.

Michael earned his Bachelor of Arts degree with honors in International Affairs from the University of Colorado at Boulder, and holds a Juris Doctor from the University of San Diego School of Law. While a student at the University of San Diego, Michael was a provisional member of the *San Diego International Law Journal* and studied in Moscow, Russia and Oxford, UK through the school's Institute on International and Comparative Law. He is admitted to practice law by the State Bar of California.