

THE VANCE CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE: GLOBAL CLEARINGHOUSE

PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION

Indigenous Rights in Nicaragua

Project: Co-Counsel Before the Inter-American Court on Human Rights

Client: The Mayagna (Sumo) Awas Tingni Community – Nicaragua

Collaborator: Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP – New York

Overview: Simpson Thacher & Bartlett is acting as co-counsel with a team headed by Professor James Anaya of the University of Arizona School of Law for the Awas Tingni Community in Nicaragua in its proceedings before the Inter-American Court on Human Rights. This case has achieved broad attention due to the Court's decision issued in 2002 ordering the Nicaraguan Government to grant proprietary title to the Community over its ancestral lands. Simpson Thacher & Bartlett is currently assisting in efforts to enforce this decision and implement land demarcation and titling for the Awas Tingni Community.