

## **Special Regulations Set on Election Campaigning and Propaganda**

## **By Holland & Knight**

The National Electoral Council issued on Oct. 26, 2020, by means of Resolution No. 201020-046, registered in the *Official Gazette* of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela No. 964, the Special Regulations on the Electoral Campaign for the 2020 National Assembly Elections, which will take place Sunday, Dec. 6, 2020. (See previous Venezuela Update, "Opposition Leaders Have Opposing Views on Dec. 6 Elections," Sept. 15, 2020.)

The aforementioned regulations seek to establish special rules that must be adhered to for electoral campaigns and propaganda, within the framework of the general rules that govern the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, as well as the special rules that have been issued because of the COVID-19 global pandemic. It should be noted that electoral propaganda and campaigns are allowed from Nov. 3, 2020, to Dec. 3, 2020 at midnight. Consequently, any electoral campaign propaganda or demonstrations outside such time frames is expressly prohibited.

Television advertising was authorized for a maximum of 5 minutes per day, both on open and pay television providers. Radio is allowed a maximum of 10 minutes per day, while written and digital press is permitted to print a half page and a maximum of one page per day. Advertising may not be contracted with advertising agencies who are not authorized for that effect.

Finally, in accordance with health standards, regulations state that political and indigenous organization activities during the campaign that require public meetings, demonstrations or mass events will be subject to the rules that have been issued to stop the spread of COVID-19.

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