

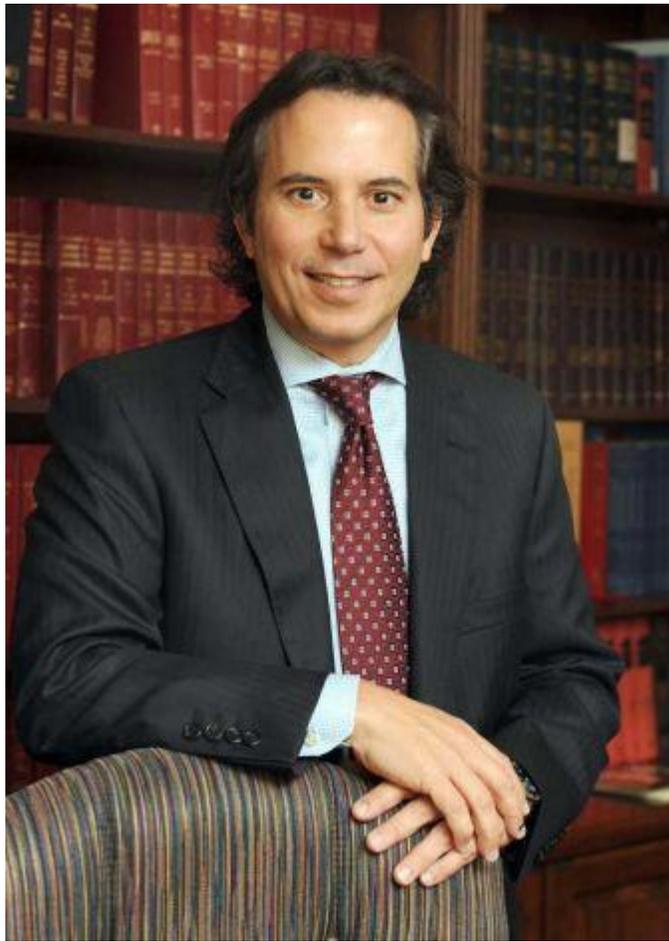
Danbury law firm to represent Brazilian Consulate

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Danbury attorney Agostino Ribeiro is photographed in his Danbury office, Wednesday, Sept. 15, 2010. Photo: Carol Kaliff / The News-Times

DANBURY -- Officials at the Brazilian Consulate General in Hartford have hired a Danbury-based law firm to represent their interests.

"I am very pleased to announce our association with the law firm of [Ventura, Ribeiro & Smith](#)," Consul General [Ronaldo Dunlop](#) said in a news release. "They will be an

important resource to help the consulate fulfill its mission to serve the interest of Connecticut's Brazilian community in its jurisdiction."

Agostinho Ribeiro, the managing partner of the law firm, said its team of lawyers will help the consulate with a wide range of legal issues, including evaluating local laws and how the regulations affect members of the Brazilian community.

"We are providing counsel with legal advice on all domestic issues and perhaps some international issues," Ribeiro said. "They believe having a legal voice for their foreign nationals is very important."

He said the Danbury-based law firm has expanded with offices in Hartford, Bridgeport and Norwalk.

Ribeiro added that if not for the "leadership and direction" of the firm's founder, [Americo Ventura](#), who continues to practice law, "we wouldn't be where we are today.

"We are proud that our reputation of community involvement and compassionate service were the determining factors in our selection," Ribeiro said. "Our reputation for over 50 years has been to treat and serve our entire community with compassion and dignity -- whether or not they speak English."

"We are proud to now have a strong voice in the legal arena statewide," said Vice Consul [Sonia Reis](#).

The Brazilian Consulate General in Hartford opened at One Constitution Plaza in January.

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