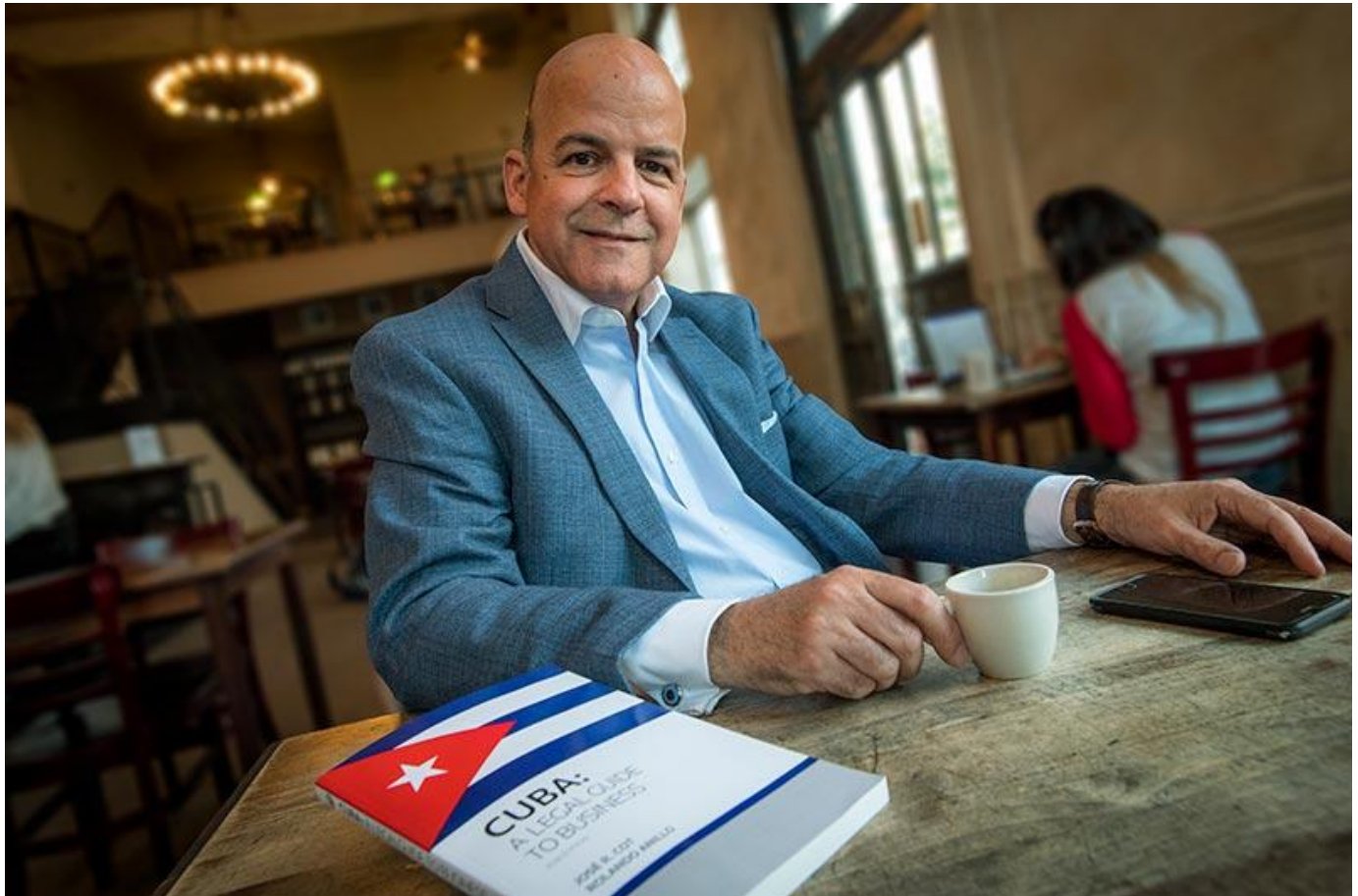


New book serves as legal guide to business in Cuba

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Tulane University alumnus José R. Cot co-edited 'Cuba: A Legal Guide to Business,' a resource designed to help navigate the Cuban legal system, with Cuban law scholar Rolando Anillo. "I grew up in Puerto Rico, which has a close relationship with Cuba," said the San Juan native. (Photo by Paula Burch-Celentano)

As diplomatic relations between Cuba and the United States have steadily been restored, the Latin American nation is being acknowledged as a viable market for American businesses. With policy changes creating an influx of travel and commerce in Cuba, publishers Thomson Reuters decided that the time was right for creating a resource for navigating the Cuban legal system. Entitled *Cuba: A Legal Guide to Business*, the book is co-edited by Tulane University alumnus José R. Cot and Cuban

law scholar Rolando Anillo.

Cot received a bachelor of arts degree from the [School of Liberal Arts](#) in 1985, followed by a juris doctor degree from [Tulane Law School](#) in 1988.

“After graduating from Tulane Law, I went to work as an associate with McGlinchey Stafford and later we formed our firm, where I have worked for 25 years,” said Cot, a partner at [Hurley & Cot, APLC](#). Cot’s law partner, Timothy P. Hurley, is also a Tulane graduate.

Cot specializes in maritime litigation and insurance coverage disputes at the New Orleans law firm.

Currently a member of the Louisiana Bar Association’s Task Force on Cuba, Cot also co-chairs the New Orleans Bar Association’s Study Group on Cuba.

He additionally penned a chapter on Cuban maritime law for the guidebook, which took about a year to complete. Work on the book was based, in part, on Cot’s meetings with Cuban jurists, lawyers and law professors during recent trips to Havana.

“We included a comprehensive discussion of relevant laws and regulations, many of which had not been translated into English from their original sources,” he said.

“Trying to stay current is challenging. We felt that providing a handbook for commercial relations between the U.S. and Cuba would be more useful than a hypothetical discussion of Cuba’s future.”

The duo also aims for the book to stoke comparative analysis with other legal systems, as Cuba’s Civil Law tradition is shared with other Latin American nations, like Puerto Rico, and with Louisiana.

“Our shared Civil Law heritage is particularly significant as we continue to rekindle the historical, cultural and commercial ties between Louisiana and Cuba.”

— Jose Cot, co-editor of 'Cuba: A Legal Guide to Business'