Ontario Court Refuses to Hear Chevron/Ecuador Enforcement Action

As many of you know, in 2011 several residents of Ecuador won a judgment in the courts of that country against Chevron Corporation for some \$18 billion. In 2012 the successful plaintiffs sued Chevron Corporation and Chevron Canada Ltd. in Ontario, seeking to have the Ecuadorian judgment enforced there. The defendants brought a motion challenging the Ontario court's jurisdiction to hear the action. The Ontario Superior Court of Justice has now released its decision, siding with the defendants. The decision has not yet been posted on CanLII but is available here. The plaintiffs' lawyer has publicly indicated that his clients will appeal.

Key aspects of the decision have been summarized by Roger Alford on the Opinio Juris website (here).