

Dolores (Lola) Garcia

Partner | Vice Group Leader, Business Litigation



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Practices/Industries

- Complex Business Litigation
- Antitrust Litigation
- Consumer & Commercial Litigation
- Government Contracting

Education

Grinnell College
(B.A., 2006)
Harvard Law School
(J.D., 2009)

Overview

Lola is a dedicated trial lawyer who handles complex commercial litigation matters. She counsels business clients both before and after litigation arises on wide-ranging issues involving business disputes, commercial contract interpretation, and compliance issues. She has represented large and small organizations, including financial institutions, real estate developers, health care facilities and providers, and manufacturers in state and federal courts. Lola has particular experience bringing and defending claims for clients based on breach of contract, business torts, and indemnification.

A former Assistant United States Attorney, Lola has extensive experience with litigation involving various state and federal statutes regulating business conduct and competition, including investigations and pre-suit analyses related to each of these areas. She has handled all aspects of pretrial and trial procedures in state and federal courts, including motion practice, complex discovery, depositions, mediations and settlement negotiations, and the preparation and presentation of witnesses and oral arguments in jury trials, bench trials, and arbitration proceedings.

Experience

- Represented a payment processor in civil enforcement action by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) in federal district court. Though action is still pending against other parties, the court struck all causes of action that the CFPB brought against the payment processor defendant.
- Represents broker-dealers in FINRA arbitrations involving requests for expungement, allegations of discrimination, and other employment-related matters.
- Helped successfully defend bundled pricing for a medical supplier in a federal civil action filed by a competitor.
- Part of team that represented a domestic subsidiary and foreign parent company in a federal criminal investigation and follow-on class action litigation.
- Successfully defended against a wrongful death action filed by the estate of a former federal prisoner.
- Represented commercial policyholders against their insurers in negotiations and active litigation in state and federal courts and in domestic and international arbitrations. These matters have involved a range of complex coverage issues including the interpretation of general liability policies, excess policies, commercial crime policy coverage, and bad faith claims.
- Represented a hospice provider in a licensing dispute with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid and successfully negotiated for the provider to be able to keep its licensing.
- Part of a team that represented a construction firm in a contract dispute with the West Virginia Department of Transportation, which is affiliated with the Federal Highway Administration, and that resolved the dispute pre-arbitration.

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Presentations

- “Women at the Intersection of Diverse Identity and Experiences in the Law,” Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association’s International Women’s Day Conversation (March 2021)
- “Cracking the Old Boys Network: Finding, Building, and Marketing Your Own Practice,” Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association’s Racial Equity and the Law Talks (July 2020)
- “The Perils of Being a Bad Egg: DeCoster and the Responsible Corporate Officer Doctrine,” ABA Business Law Section’s Director & Officer Liability Committee meeting (September 2017)

Involvement

Professional Affiliations

- Norman S. Minor Bar Association (*Treasurer; Past Vice President*)
- Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association (*Diversity & Inclusion Committee*)
- National Bar Association

Community Involvement

- Providence House (*Board of Directors, 2022-present*)
- SPACES (*Board of Directors, 2021-present*)
- Cleveland Bridge Builders (*Class of 2018*)
- Near West Family Network (*Former Board Member*)
- Minds Matter of Cleveland (*Board Trustee, Senior Vice President, Student Programming, 2012-2014*)

Honors & Distinctions

- Named a “Latino Leader Worth Watching” by Profiles in Diversity Journal (2022)
- Named to the Crain’s Cleveland Business list of “Notables in Law” (2022)
- Named one of the Most Influential Black Lawyers in America by Savoy Magazine (2022)
- Named to AmMore Consulting’s list of “100+ Latinos Cleveland Must Know” (2020)
- YWCA Women of Professional Excellence (2020)
- Named to the Ohio Super Lawyers Rising Stars list (2019)

Admissions

- State of Ohio
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Ohio
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit