



## RICARDO A. GONZALEZ

### Partner

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Ricardo A. Gonzalez is a partner on Berger Singerman's Dispute Resolution Team and a resident in the firm's Miami office. Rick is an experienced litigator and regulatory defense and compliance attorney who has been litigating cases in federal and state courts and before domestic and international arbitral tribunals for nearly two decades. He approaches each engagement from the client's perspective, drawing on his experience on both sides of the courtroom to offer clients practical advice tailored to each case. His deep experience representing corporations across a wide range of industries gives him unique insights into understanding clients' business objectives. Rick develops strategies for clients in litigations, arbitrations, and regulatory proceedings consistent with those objectives while allocating clients' resources in a cost-effective and efficient manner.

Rick focuses his practice on four major areas:

- **Commercial Litigation.** Rick regularly represents leading U.S. and multinational companies and individuals across various industries — including banking, technology, media, health care, pharmaceutical, and hospitality — in the defense of matters arising out of complex commercial transactions and business disputes. Rick has defended clients in federal and state class actions, derivative litigations, and in a federal multi-district litigation ("MDL").
- **Financial Services & Securities Litigation.** Rick also represents banks and other financial services institutions, as well as securities broker dealers, investment advisers, and their associated persons, in the defense of customer and investor actions involving claims for fraud, breach of contract, breach of fiduciary duty, business torts, and violations of federal and state laws, including the Racketeering Influenced and

Corrupt Organizations ("RICO") Act, the Securities Exchange Commission Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act"), and state Unfair and Deceptive Acts and Practices ("UDAP") statutes.

- **Regulatory Defense & Compliance.** Rick advises and represents public and private companies, as well as their officers and directors, in government and regulatory investigations, compliance reviews, and enforcement actions. He also advises companies in internal investigations including with respect to compliance under the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act ("FCPA"). As a former attorney at the Federal Trade Commission ("FTC") responsible for investigating and enforcing violations of federal financial consumer protection and privacy laws, Rick offers his clients substantive experience and knowledge regarding the government investigatory and enforcement process.
- **International Arbitration.** Rick represents corporations and individuals across various industries in the defense of matters arising out of complex commercial transactions and business disputes before international arbitration tribunals, including the International Chamber of Commerce ("ICC") and International Centre for Dispute Resolution ("ICDR"). In addition, Rick has published articles and spoken at several bar, professional, and industry conferences and continuing legal education forums on various topics regarding international commercial arbitration.

Rick also devotes time to *pro bono* matters. Significantly, he was a member of the litigation team that represented two foster children *pro bono* in the landmark Florida "Gay Adoption Case" which declared a state statute banning the adoption of children by gays and lesbians unconstitutional on equal protection grounds.

Rick has a proven record serving as lead, or "first chair," litigation and trial counsel. His successes include dozens of pre-trial and pre-hearing dismissals in court actions and arbitrations; complete defense verdicts (jury trials); final judgments for defendants (bench trials); and final awards in favor of the defendants in domestic and international arbitrations. A few of the high-profile matters he has handled have garnered significant local, national, and international media coverage.

## Education

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J.D., Georgetown University Law Center  
B.A., *cum laude*, Georgetown University

## Bar Admissions

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Florida  
Maryland  
U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit  
U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida  
U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida

## Practice Teams

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Dispute Resolution

## Practice Areas

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Banking & Financial Services Litigation  
Class Action Litigation  
Complex Commercial Litigation  
Complex Fraud & Securities Litigation  
Healthcare  
Internal & Corporate Investigations and Compliance

