

People



## Steven M. Cordero

Partner, Litigation

New York

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Steven Cordero focuses his practice on commercial litigation in federal and state courts, mediations, and arbitrations. He defends and prosecutes on behalf of a wide range of clients, including law firms and businesses, actions pertaining to commercial, professional liability, directors and officers liability, insurance, real estate, and employment disputes. Steven's practice is further deepened by his experience in patents, contracts, securities, environmental, immigration, and real property law.

Steven is a former combat engineer for the U.S. Army.

### Notable Work

**Professional Liability – Law Firm:** Represented a law firm accused of negligently representing a developer in a multi-million dollar fee dispute with a real estate consultant.

**Directors and Officers Liability:** Represented management of global retail watch company against breach of fiduciary duty claims brought by creditor trustee.

**Directors and Officers Liability:** Represented group fitness company and management against claims concerning the founding of the company.

**Construction Litigation:** Represented a developer in RPAPL §881 proceeding to obtain a license to enter and use parts of the neighboring premises in furtherance of a multimillion dollar housing project.

**Professional Liability – Lawyer:** Represented a lawyer accused of Judiciary Law §487 violations and aiding and abetting claims arising from his representation of an LLC in a membership dispute.

**Copyright Infringement:** Represented a provider of commercial real estate market information against pirates for copyright infringement

### Areas of Experience

Litigation  
Professional Liability  
Directors and Officers (D&O) Liability  
Real Estate Litigation  
Commercial Disputes  
Financial Institutions Commercial Litigation

### Education

J.D., Fordham University School of Law, 1999,  
*Fordham Intellectual Property, Media & Entertainment Law Journal*, Managing Editor  
B.S., John Jay College of Criminal Justice, Legal Studies, 1996, *summa cum laude*

### Admissions

#### Bars

New York

#### Courts

U.S. Supreme Court  
U.S. District Court, Eastern District of New York  
U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York

### Related Content

Steven Cordero Sworn In as Puerto Rican Bar Association President-Elect  
January 28, 2020

Akerman Sponsors the 2019 HNBA Annual Convention  
September 26, 2019

HNBA 10th Annual Corporate Counsel Conference  
March 21, 2019

and theft.

**Professional Liability – Law Firm:** Represented a law firm accused of malpractice in rendering a labor law opinion.

**Real Estate Litigation:** Represented property owners in proceedings against municipal agency for the reinstatement of RPTL §421-a tax benefits.

**Fraud and Breach of Fiduciary Duty:** Represented a shareholder in a derivative action against company's former directors and CEO for fraud and breach of fiduciary duty.

**Professional Liability – Law Firm:** Represented a law firm accused of malpractice in an action brought by one of the partners of a partnership that the firm represented.

**Professional Liability – Trademark:** Represented an international law firm in a claim that it negligently failed to properly register certain trademarks in the United States, Europe, Asia, and South America.

**Civil RICO Action:** Represented a law firm involving claims of malpractice and overbilling in an underlying civil RICO action.

**Professional Liability – Lawyer:** Represented lawyers accused of negligently allowing their former clients' patents to expire.

**Fee Dispute:** Represented a biotech company in the defense of a fee dispute brought by a business opportunity consultant.

**Real Estate Litigation:** Represented a subleasee in a dispute with a sublessor over possession of an over one hundred million dollar commercial leasehold.

**Insurance Litigation:** Represented two clients asserting insurance claims under separately issued financier's endorsements to marine cargo insurance policies for cargo sent from the United States to Eastern Europe which the insurers claimed was stolen with the assistance of the party which had procured the marine cargo policies.

## Related Professional Experience

- U.S. Army, Combat Engineer, 1991-1994

## Published Work and Lectures

- MetroLALSA Pa'Lante Conference, Speaker, "Latino Partners: Getting on the Partnership Track," March 30, 2019
- HNBA Corporate Counsel Conference, Moderator, "Navigating the Landmines of the Corporate Representative Deposition," March 21, 2019
- *New York Law Journal*, "Legislating Innovation and the Battle Against Online Sex Trafficking," March 19, 2018
- NYC Goods & Services Mentorship Program, Presenter, "Legal Issues for Small & Emerging Goods and Services Businesses," April 4, 2017
- *New York Law Journal*, Co-Author, "Defending Against Revocation of §421-a Tax Benefits," December 21, 2016
- *Law360*, Co-Author, "Is It Time To Repeal NY's Ancient Attorney Deceit Statute?" April 19, 2016

## Affiliations

- American Bar Association, Member
- New York State Bar Association, Member
- Hispanic National Bar Association, Member
- Puerto Rican Bar Association, 64th and 65th President
- Fordham University School of Law REAL Scholars Program, Mentor

## Honors and Distinctions

- Sanctuary for Families 2016 Above & Beyond Pro Bono Award Recipient