

People



Nicole Villamar

Associate, Litigation

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Nicole Villamar focuses her practice on commercial litigation matters, including business torts, shareholder derivative and direct actions, and breach of contract claims, in state and federal courts. She has experience in drafting and preparing discovery requests, pleadings, pre-trial matters, and working on appellate matters.

Notable Work

Broker/Dealer: Represented a broker-dealer in defending FINRA arbitration against claims of various violations of securities laws and industry rules in connection with the claimant's losses in pre-initial public offering investments. The claimant demanded over \$1.4 million in compensatory damages plus lost opportunity and punitive damages. The broker-dealer successfully obtained a dismissal, with prejudice, of all claims alleged by the claimant for his violations of three orders of the arbitration panel.

Commercial Litigation: Represented a major hospitality group in a breach of contract action filed in state court in Mississippi by several "John Doe" plaintiffs. The hospitality team moved to dismiss on the grounds of a forum selection clause, *forum non conveniens*, and personal jurisdiction. After significant motion practice occurred at the trial court level, the district court judge ultimately granted the motion to dismiss, ruling that a valid and enforceable forum selection clause required that suit be brought in The Bahamas, and also that the traditional doctrine of *forum non conveniens* weighed in favor of suit in The Bahamas. The "John Doe" plaintiffs then appealed, whereupon the hospitality team was once again successful on appeal before the Fifth Circuit. The "John Doe" plaintiffs sought rehearing en banc which was denied.

Related Professional Experience

- Judicial Law Clerk to the Honorable Melanie May, Fourth District Court of Appeal, West Palm Beach, 2018-2020

Areas of Experience

Litigation
Gaming Law

Education

J.D., Nova Southeastern University, 2018, magna cum laude
B.S., Florida State University, 2015

Admissions

Bars

Florida
District of Columbia

Courts

U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida
U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida
U.S. District Court, Northern District of Florida

Languages

Spanish

Honors and Distinctions

- *Best Lawyers*, 2025, Listed in Florida for Commercial Litigation as “Ones to Watch”