



Miguel Alexander Pozo

Member

Minneapolis, Cherry Hill

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Practice Areas

- Commercial Litigation
- Employment Litigation
- Health Care & Life Sciences
- Labor & Employment

Education

- Rutgers University School of Law—Newark, J.D., 1998
- Hofstra University, B.A., 1994

Bar Admissions

- District of Columbia
- Georgia
- Minnesota
- New Jersey

Court Admissions

- U.S. Supreme Court
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit
- U.S. District Court -- Northern District of Georgia
- U.S. District Court -- Minnesota
- U.S. District Court -- New Jersey
- U.S. District Court -- Eastern District of New York
- U.S. District Court -- Northern District of New York
- U.S. District Court -- Southern District of New York

Affiliations

American Bar Foundation (ABF), Life Fellow (2019-present)

Hispanic National Bar Association (36th National President, 2013-2014) (Board of Governors 2006-2015)

Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey (HBANJ) (30th President, 2009-2010) (Board of Trustees 2004-2011)

New Jersey State Bar Association (Northern Vice Chair, Judicial and Prosecutorial Committee (JPAC) (2012-2014)

American Bar Association (Member, Coalition on Racial and Ethnic Justice (COREJ) (2014-2016)

Miguel is a seasoned and trusted business partner, trial lawyer, and compliance professional with nearly 30 years of experience. He uses his significant in-house experience, including as Head of U.S. Litigation for Mercedes-Benz USA, to assist clients in taking calculated risks to advance their business objectives. Additionally, having twice served as a general counsel to companies in highly regulated industries, and in particular as a chief compliance officer in the health care industry, he brings a unique lens through which he views and helps clients mitigate enterprise-wide risk. Miguel has represented Fortune 500 corporations, nonprofits, and companies of all sizes in the health care, biopharmaceutical, automotive, and consumer/retail goods industries, to name a few.

Naturally curious, Miguel uses his background to ask the right questions so clients can find the most appropriate business solutions. And, when absolutely necessary, Miguel is adept at resolving business disputes through trial or arbitration. He has litigated cases across the country in matters involving breach of contract, unfair competition, tortious interference, and theft of trade secrets, among others. He also counsels clients on trademark and brand protection issues, conducts internal investigations, and provides strategic, management-side advice on all aspects of the employer-employee relationship.

Specifically, Miguel regularly advises clients on workforce issues and has represented management in labor and employment litigation in both state and federal courts and before administrative agencies. He has significant experience defending cases involving wrongful termination, discrimination, executive compensation matters, including severance and related agreements, and reductions in force. He has served as an editor and co-author for three editions of the “Minnesota Human Resources Manual” published by the American Chamber of Commerce Resources, LLC. Miguel also routinely conducts complex internal investigations in matters involving workplace, ethics and compliance violations, fraud, corporate mismanagement, and executive misconduct.

Additionally, Miguel understands the importance of a company's “brand” to its success and ability to maintain its competitive edge. He works to enhance and protect some of the world's most iconic brands. His strategic approach has helped clients expand within existing markets or extend their operations into new markets. And when all other options fail, Miguel uses litigation to help his clients protect their critical intellectual property rights from infringement from competitors, counterfeiters, and other bad actors. Over the years, his clients have included LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton, Christian Dior, TAG Heuer, Thomas Pink, Mercedes-Benz USA, and Target Corporation, to name a few.

Having practiced law in New Jersey, Washington, D.C., and Georgia, Miguel has recently immersed himself in the greater Minneapolis-St. Paul community. For example, he was appointed (2021, 2023, and 2024) by U.S. Senators Amy Klobuchar and Tina Smith to serve on the Judicial Selection Committee charged with vetting candidates for judicial vacancies on the U.S. District Court for the District of Minnesota.

Miguel also served on the board of directors of Minnesota USA Expo 2027, themed “Healthy People, Healthy Planet,” as board secretary and member of the Executive Committee. He also served as chair

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Association of the Federal Bar of New Jersey (Trustee, 2014-2016)

Network of Trial Law Firms (Executive Committee and Secretary, 2014-2015)

Supreme Court of New Jersey (Civil Practice Committee, 2010-2012)

Supreme Court of New Jersey, Office of Attorney Ethics, District Ethics Committee (District V, 2008-2009)

Supreme Court of New Jersey (Criminal Practice Committee, 2004-2007)

The Sanneh Foundation

Boys & Girls Clubs of America

Awards & Honors

- *Minnesota Monthly*, Top Lawyers in Minnesota, 2024
- Latino Leaders- "Top Latino Lawyers" (2018)
- Hofstra University "Alumni Achievement Award" (2018)
- Dominican Bar Association "Achievement Award" (2016)
- Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey, "Achievement Award" (2016)
- New Jersey Law Journal "Lifetime Achievement Award" (2015)
- Lawyers of Color "Power List" (2014)
- Hispanic Business "50 Influentials" List (2013)
- New Jersey Super Lawyers Magazine "Super Lawyers" (2010-2013, 2015) This award is conferred by Super Lawyers. A description of the selection methodology can be found here. No aspect of this advertisement has been approved by the Supreme Court of New Jersey.
- N.J. Commission on Professionalism in the Law, "Professional Lawyer of the Year" (2011)
- New Jersey Law Journal's "40 under 40" (2009)
- NJ Biz Magazine "Forty under 40" list (2009)
- New Jersey Super Lawyers "Rising Star" (2007) This award is conferred by Super Lawyers. A description of the selection methodology can be found here. No aspect of this advertisement has been approved by the Supreme Court of New Jersey.

Clerkships

Hon. Lawrence M. Lawson, A.J.S.C. (ret.), Monmouth County, NJ

of its Governance Committee, which was responsible for identifying potential board members and other supporters across the country to assist with the Expo. Minnesota USA Expo 2027 is a nonprofit that was leading the United States' effort to host the 2027 World's Fair. The bid, while ultimately unsuccessful, was a significant step toward bringing the Expo (formerly known as the World Fair) back to the United States for the first time in over 40 years.

Passionate about helping children from underserved communities, he has been a champion for educational access, health care equity, and social justice reform by serving on various boards including the Boys and Girls Clubs of America, the NJ Law and Education Empowerment Project (NJ LEEP), and St. Paul, Minnesota-based The Sanneh Foundation (TSF), which empowers diverse low-income urban and immigrant youth populations in the greater Minneapolis-St. Paul area through a range of in- and after-school programs. He also serves as a board member and chair for the Governance Committee of the National Medical Fellowships (NMF), which for over 75 years has been a leader in health equity by providing opportunities and financial scholarships to medical students from diverse backgrounds.

Beyond his community and civic engagement, Miguel has also held a number of high-profile leadership roles within the legal profession, including as the 36th national president of the Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA), 30th president of the Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey (HBA-NJ), and as the northern vice chair for the Judicial and Prosecutorial Committee (JPAC) of the New Jersey State Bar Association (NJSBA).

He is also a frequent speaker on topics such as ethical pitfalls for in-house counsel, how to conduct effective internal investigations, and preserving the attorney-client privilege.

Miguel's work has garnered numerous awards and accolades including "Professional Lawyer of the Year," two "Top Lawyer Under Forty" awards, two "Lifetime Achievement" awards, and a "Top Latino Lawyer" in the United States. Miguel earned his undergraduate degree from Hofstra University and his law degree from Rutgers School of Law - Newark, where he was the managing editor of the *Rutgers Race and the Law Review*. He is admitted to practice in Washington, D.C., Georgia, Minnesota, and New Jersey.

Experience

Advised and counseled LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton Inc., Hublot, TAG Heuer and Thomas Pink on licensing, trademark, counterfeiting, gray marketing, and supplier distribution issues in furtherance of corporate expansion, brand protection strategy, and related business objectives.

Defended TAG Heuer and successfully argued against an injunctive relief application seeking to enjoin termination of a dealer/distributor resulting in preservation of Company's supplier distribution model.

Represented Benefits Cosmetics in a trademark infringement action and licensing dispute which resulted in a very favorable outcome for the Company.

Defended an Order to Show Cause against Liz Claiborne, Inc. filed by a losing bidder seeking to enjoin the sale of the company's corporate headquarters in New Jersey allowing the Company to consummate the transaction successfully.

Defended Schering-Plough Corp. in various consumer fraud putative class actions accusing the Company of off label marketing of its oncology drugs Intron and Temodar.

Represented Mercedes Benz- USA, LLC in employment litigation and counseled the company in all aspects of employer-employee relationship.

Represented Target Corporation in employment litigation matters.

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Represented Cartier in a breach of contract action.

Represented Christian Dior in a commercial lease dispute.

Counseled the Julliard School on employment, licensing, and trademark-related issues.

Counseled MTV on employment, licensing, and related issues for a reality TV series.

Represented Englewood Public School District in various state court actions, including a construction delay and breach of contract litigation filed by the Dobco Group.

Won summary judgement on behalf of Westdale Construction, Ltd., a Canadian-based institutional investor, against various defendants engaged in a multi-million dollar Ponzi scheme.

Won summary judgment on behalf of a U.S. Title Search Company, a nationwide commercial title search company, against claims of minority shareholder oppression, fraud, breach of fiduciary duty, and other claims.

Won Trial victory in favor of Cedarbridge Development, LLC in defense claims of seeking to invalidate an option agreement with Lakewood Township alleging that the option agreement constituted an unlawful gifting of public lands for private use contrary to the New Jersey Constitution.

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