

Lionel F. Rivera

SENIOR COUNSEL / MIAMI OFFICE



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Biography

Lionel F. Rivera is a seasoned insurance coverage and defense attorney in Miami, Florida. Lionel serves as Senior Counsel to domestic and international insurance carriers, focusing on claims arising from first-party property, commercial general liability, directors' and officers', professional liability, and environmental liability policies. Lionel has proven himself a trusted litigator and advocate in state and federal courts, and deft at resolving matters through direct settlement negotiations and mediation.

Before joining Fields Howell, Lionel spent a decade working in the South Florida offices of two national law firms, where he focused on commercial and luxury residential first-party property insurance coverage matters, including matters involving the alleged causes of loss of hurricane, windstorm, water, and sinkhole. During this time, Lionel also handled liability coverage matters, including in the areas of construction defect, insurance broker liability, and negligent security.

Before returning to his hometown of Miami, Lionel worked as an attorney in the New York City office of an international law firm. While there, and during his summer associateship in the Los Angeles office of the same firm, Lionel worked on land use and securities matters, including matters involving investigations by the Manhattan District Attorney's Office, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Securities and Exchange Commission. While in New York, Lionel was also awarded the firm's pro bono prize, in part for his work on a case involving housing discrimination against migrant workers.

Lionel completed his Juris Doctor from Loyola Law School in Los Angeles, California, where he was a Sayre MacNeil Scholar, a member of the St. Thomas More Law Honor Society, and earned First Honors Awards in several courses. Before attending law school, Lionel earned his undergraduate degree from Harvard University, where he concentrated in Government.

Education

- Loyola Law School (Los Angeles), J.D., 2007
 - Sayre MacNeil Scholar
 - St. Thomas More Law Honor Society
 - Student Bar Association
- Harvard University, A.B., 2004
 - *cum laude*
 - Harvard Program for International Education
 - Harvard Model Congress
 - Pforzheimer House Committee
 - William Fahey House Spirit Award

Memberships

- Harvard Club of Miami

Presentations and Publications

“Hurricane Claim Adjustments & Bad Faith Avoidance,” presented by Lionel F. Rivera at the Florida Catastrophe Conference held by domestic insurance carrier.

Experience / Results

Fantecchi v. Hartford Ins. Co. of the Midwest, No. 15-23969, 2015 WL 12516629, at *2 (S.D. Fla. Nov. 24, 2015)

Great Am. Ins. Co. of New York v. Towers of Quayside No. 4 Condo. Ass’n, 2015 WL 6773870 (S.D. Fla. Nov. 5, 2015).

Preferred Governmental Ins. Trust v. North River Ins., No. 3:13cv424-MCR-CJK, 2014 WL 11512201, at *2-4 (N.D. Fla. Feb. 26, 2014)

Tower Ins. Co. of N.Y. v. Aledith Enters., Inc., 2013 WL 12064483, at *2 (S.D. Fla. Sept. 30, 2013)

Tower Ins. Co. of N.Y. v. Bilu Holdings, Inc., No. 11-21771-CV-LENARD/O’SULLIVAN, 2012 WL 13012756, at *3 (S.D. Fla. Oct. 16, 2012)

Admissions

STATE BARS

State Bar of Florida

State Bar of New York

APPELLATE COURT

U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit

DISTRICT COURTS

United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida

United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida

United States District Court for the Northern District of Florida

Practice Areas

- Appellate Litigation
- Design & Construction Professionals
- Bad Faith
- Business & Partnership Disputes
- Commercial General Liability
- Commercial Litigation
- Construction Law & Litigation
- Directors & Officers
- Environmental Liability
- Insurance Defense
- Professional Liability & Indemnity
- Property