

Vanessa Tiradentes

Partner



Connect with Vanessa

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Services / Industries

Litigation

Construction

Corporate

Bio

Vanessa Tiradentes is a skilled attorney known for her ability to spot critical issues and develop effective strategies in corporate disputes. With a keen eye for detail, she excels in business divorce cases, where her empathy and understanding of the personal dynamics involved help clients navigate complex challenges. Vanessa's approach combines legal insight with a genuine focus on her clients' needs, leading to resolutions that are both practical and thoughtful.

In addition to her litigation practice, Vanessa regularly provides pre-litigation advice and general counsel support, helping clients identify and address potential risks before they escalate. She encourages clients to involve her early—at the contracting stage or during internal planning—where her review of terms and conditions, revisions to form agreements, and strategic input can help avoid many of the pitfalls that lead to costly disputes. Vanessa sees her role not only as a problem-solver in litigation but also as a trusted partner in building stronger, more resilient businesses.

Vanessa represents a wide range of businesses and individuals in all phases of commercial litigation in both federal and state courts. Her experience spans matters involving breach of fiduciary duty, contract disputes, indemnification claims, and business divorces, where her strategic mindset and steady guidance provide clients with a clear path forward. She also advises on construction-related issues, including contractor disputes, breach of warranty claims, and complex insurance coverage questions.

Admitted to practice in four states, Vanessa brings a depth of perspective shaped by years of experience litigating in Delaware's state and federal courts at both the trial and appellate levels. Her work has touched on corporate, commercial, intellectual property, and other business-critical areas. Recognized for her excellence, Vanessa was named a Delaware Rising Star in business litigation by SuperLawyers magazine in 2016, an Illinois Rising Star from 2018 to 2023, and a SuperLawyer in 2024. She received the Leadership Award from the Coalition of Women's Initiative in Law in 2020 and has been honored multiple times by *Crain's Chicago Business*, including recognition as a Notable Minority in Accounting, Consulting and Law (2020), a Notable Rising Star in Law (2021), and a Notable Woman in Law (2024).

A committed leader in the legal community, Vanessa plays an active role in several bar associations. She has held multiple leadership positions within the American Bar Association's Business Law Section and currently serves as Co-Chair of its Diversity Clerkship Program. She has also served as Deputy General Counsel and affiliate representative of the Hispanic National Bar Association, and as President of the Delaware Hispanic Bar Association, where she championed initiatives supporting Latino lawyers and law students.

Beyond her legal practice, Vanessa is deeply involved in alumni outreach and advocacy. She serves as a Harvard College Alumni Interviewer and held leadership roles with the Harvard Latino Alumni Alliance, including Secretary and Co-President. Under her leadership, the organization was awarded the 2022 Harvard Alumni Association Clubs and SIGs Outstanding Alumni Community Award, a testament to her dedication to building inclusive and engaged alumni communities.

Vanessa earned her JD from Hofstra University School of Law, where she served as Managing Editor of Production for the *Journal of International Business and Law*. In 2008, she clerked for then-Vice Chancellor Donald F. Parsons, Jr. of the Delaware Court of Chancery as part of the ABA Business Law Section Diversity Clerkship Program. She holds a BA, *cum laude*, in Latin American Studies from Harvard University.

Credentials

Education

Harvard University
Hofstra University School of Law

Bar Admissions

Delaware
Illinois
New Jersey
Pennsylvania

Affiliations

- American Bar Association
 - Co-Chair, Judges Initiative Committee, Business Law Section
 - Co-Chair, Diversity Clerkship Program, Business Law Section
- Hispanic National Bar Association
 - Previous Deputy General Counsel
- Illinois State Bar Association
- Hispanic Lawyers Association of Illinois
- Prior President, Delaware Hispanic Bar Association
- Co-President and Former Secretary, Harvard Latino Alumni Alliance
- Mentor and Tutor, Chicago Lights

Speaking Engagements

- [Vanessa Tiradentes Participated in the ABA's Collaborative Bar Leadership Academy, June 28, 2022](#)
- [Vanessa Tiradentes Spoke at the 2022 ABA Business Law Section Hybrid Spring Meeting, March 31, 2022](#)
- [Eric Sparks and Vanessa Tiradentes Presented at the Illinois Institute for Continuing Legal Education's Trial Advocacy for Civil Litigators Program, October 17, 2019](#)
- [Vanessa Tiradentes Presented at the 2019 ABA Business Law Section Annual Meeting, September 2019](#)
- [#MeToo Era Tips for In House & Outside Counsel Success, March 22, 2019](#)
- [Recent Developments in the Delaware Chancery Court and the New York State Supreme Court Commercial Division, July 26, 2018](#)
- [Business Divorce Panel, 13th Annual Meeting of American College of Business Court Judges, March 16, 2018](#)

- [Valuation and Damages in Business Divorce Cases, November 17, 2017](#)
- [Vanessa Tiradentes was a Panelist at the 2016 HNBA Annual Convention, September 8, 2016](#)
- [Vanessa Tiradentes was a speaker on a Meritas Capability Webinar, June 11, 2015](#)

News

Six Gould & Ratner Lawyers Named to 2026 Illinois Super Lawyers and Rising Stars Lists, January 21, 2026

Three Gould & Ratner Partners Recognized by Crain's as "Notable Women in Law" for 2024, February 21, 2024

Gould & Ratner Selects Practice Chairs, Vice-Chairs, February 18, 2024

Gould & Ratner Selects Practice Chairs, Announces New Vice Chair Role, March 13, 2023

Five Gould & Ratner Lawyers Named Illinois Super Lawyers and Rising Stars for 2023, January 24, 2023

Eight Gould & Ratner Lawyers Named Illinois Super Lawyers and Rising Stars for 2022, January 28, 2022

Gould & Ratner Lawyers Named to Crain's 2021 Rising Stars in Law List, September 3, 2021

Eight Gould & Ratner Lawyers Earn Illinois Super Lawyers, Rising Stars Designation for 2021, February 1, 2021

Vanessa Tiradentes Was Recognized as a Notable Minority in Accounting, Consulting and Law for 2020, December 11, 2020

Vanessa Tiradentes Wins 2020 Leadership Award for the Coalition of Women's Initiative in Law, November 5, 2020

Vanessa Tiradentes Appointed Chair of the Judges Initiative Committee of the ABA Business Law Section, September 9, 2020

Gould & Ratner Supports the Illinois Prison Project, May 7, 2020

Eight Gould & Ratner Lawyers Earn Illinois Super Lawyers, Rising Stars Designation for 2020, January 30, 2020

Vanessa R. Tiradentes Named Partner at Gould & Ratner, July 29, 2018

Vanessa R. Tiradentes Joins Gould & Ratner, August 23, 2016

Publications

An Introduction to the Benchbook and Business Courts, September 3, 2020

Main Street Lending Program Now Provides Opportunities for Nonprofits, July 22, 2020

How the SBA's Affiliation Rules May Affect Your Loan Eligibility for COVID-19 Economic Relief, April 15, 2020

Coming Soon: CARES Act Relief for Mid-Sized Businesses, April 7, 2020

Offerings During the COVID-19 Pandemic, April 3, 2020

CARES Act Expands SBA Loan Programs to Offer Relief for Small Businesses During the COVID-19 Pandemic, March 30, 2020

COVID-19 and Commercial Disputes: Some Practical Considerations, March 17, 2020

COVID-19 and Commercial Disputes: Some Practical Considerations, March 17, 2020

The Business Courts Benchbook: Procedures and Best Practices in Business and Commercial Cases, November 19, 2019

The Importance of Advancement in Corporate Formation and Litigation Strategy, July 31, 2019

Challenging a Split, November 29, 2016

Business Law Section Diversity Clerkship Program: Exposing Minority Students to Careers in Business Law, September 29, 2013