

Daniela Paez

Associate



216.583.7462
1660 West 2nd Street,
Suite 1100
Cleveland, OH 44113-1406
dpaez@ulmer.com

Practices/Industries

- Business Litigation
- Immigration

Education

San Francisco State
University
(B.A., *cum laude*, 2009)
Dean's Honor List 2008, 2009
Case Western Reserve
University School of Law
(J.D., 2013)
Dean's Honor List 2010, 2011
Klatsky Fellowship Recipient,
John Wragg Kellogg Prize

Overview

Daniela's practice focuses on complex, commercial, banking, fiduciary, and broker-dealer litigation. She represents a diverse set of clients, ranging from individuals, LLCs, and closely-held corporations to large, multinational companies and major financial institutions in state and federal courts in and outside of Ohio, in mediation, and in arbitration before the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority. Daniela is involved in all phases of trial preparation and case management, including motion practice, discovery, taking and defending depositions, preparing witnesses, arguing motions, and appellate briefing. She also handles immigration matters, including employment- and education-based immigration and enforcement. Daniela is fluent in Spanish and has basic knowledge of Portuguese.

While in law school, Daniela served as an extern at the General Division of the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas, in the chambers of Judge Stuart A. Friedman.

Experience

- Represented executor, as part of litigation team, and prevailed at the Ohio Supreme Court in precedent setting matter regarding the requirements for the presentation of a claim against a decedent's estate.
- Defended major financial institutions in customer disputes in arbitration before the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority and in state court, including defending against claims under state and federal securities and consumer protection laws, common law fraud, and similar allegations.
- Successfully represented a client at a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement bond hearing after the client had been detained due to the expiration of her F-1 Student Visa.
- Assisted international students with applications for work authorization through F-1 Optional Practical Training and the H-1B process on behalf of numerous corporations in Silicon Valley.
- Advised international students on securing F-1 Student Visas and the immigration process, including working to change their immigration statuses once they were in the United States.
- Defended national bank in claims related to the Ohio Uniform Fiduciary Act, and obtained summary judgment on all claims in a decision that was affirmed by the Fifth District Court of Appeals. *Tsepas v. JPMorgan Chase Bank, NA*, 2017-Ohio-1272 (Ohio 5th Dist. Ct. App.).
- Defended multinational natural resources company, as part of litigation team, in \$100 million breach of contract and tort action, assisting in all phases of litigation and appeal, and developing defense strategy.

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Experience (Cont)

- Defended retail pharmacy in unfair competition and trade secrets matter, and after obtaining transfer to the Eastern District of Michigan for lack of personal jurisdiction, drafted motion to dismiss that was granted, in part, dismissing with prejudice significant number of the plaintiff's claims. *Prescription Supply, Inc., et al. v. Moussa "Mark" Musa, et al.*, Case No. 2:16-cv-12070 (E.D. Mich. February 27, 2017).
- Defended self-directed IRA custodian in numerous cases in and outside of Ohio against customer claims under state and federal securities and consumer protection laws, along with tort and contract claims.

Involvement

Professional Affiliations

- Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association
- American Bar Association
- Ohio State Bar Association

Community Involvement

- Stella Maris, Inc. (*Board of Directors*)
- Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association The 3Rs - Rights, Responsibilities, and Realities Program (*High School Classroom Volunteer 2017--present*)

Honors & Distinctions

- Crain's Cleveland Business "Forty Under 40" Award Recipient (2018)
- Named to the Ohio Super Lawyers Rising Stars list (2017-2019)

Admissions

- State of Ohio
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Ohio
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Michigan