



Emilia A. Quesada

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SMGQ Law

Upon graduation from law school, Emilia A. Quesada joined the U.S. Department of Justice's Honors Attorney Program, being one of eight attorneys selected from over 2,500 candidates. So, it comes as no surprise that Quesada, after honing her skills at the Department of Justice and some of the country's largest and most prestigious law firms, developed a national complex commercial litigation practice, focusing on insurance coverage and ERISA matters, as well as financial transactions impacting financial institutions. In doing so, Quesada, AV-rated by Martindale Hubbell Peer Review Ratings, has continued to earn numerous accolades for her work, including an appointment by the American Bar Association's President to the Commission on Women in the Profession as the first Hispanic appointed to the Commission from the state of Florida.

Quesada primarily represents Fortune 100 companies throughout Florida in the prosecution and defense of commercial litigation matters including first-party insurance coverage disputes, ERISA, financial regulations, business torts, consumer claims issues, and other complex civil claims in state and federal court. "I find the complexity of matters arising in the financial industries sector, particularly in the insurance and banking areas, to be intellectually challenging," said Quesada. "Courts often have different interpretations of the same laws and regulations, so it is imperative to stay abreast of recent rulings. I also come with a 'no stone left unturned' mentality, which bodes well in litigating matters affecting the highly-regulated insurance and banking industries."

Quesada touts the virtues of her firm, indicating that not only do her clients always have a partner directly involved in each

case, but every case is treated as a priority. No matter the day or time, Quesada makes a point of taking her clients' calls and is responsive to their requests. Each case is evaluated quickly to explore the possibility of early resolution.

An advocate of maintaining work-life balance, Quesada serves on panels and guest lectures on commercial litigation, diversity and work life balance issues throughout the country. Quesada advises, "Many women find it difficult to find a true balance when managing a high profile career and maintaining a healthy and happy home life for their families, yet it is possible to do both. In my case, I was able to find that balance both in my career and personal life, upon founding SMGQ Law. Our firm, essentially starting from the ground up with the benefit of today's existing technology, has made a concerted effort to develop solutions that provide its attorneys the flexibility necessary to maintain a work-life balance, while at the same time allowing them to dedicate a greater percentage of their work time to matters that directly impact the client."

In her free time, Quesada enjoys traveling and spending time with her husband and two daughters, one of whom is an equestrian whose competitions take them all over Florida. She is an avid supporter of His House Children's Ministries, a faith-based organization providing residential care for abused, neglected and drug-exposed children in a home-like setting.

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