



Clara M. Villarreal

Senior Counsel

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EDUCATION

JD, New York Law School,
1986

BA, St. John's University,
1983

BAR ADMISSIONS

New York

COURT ADMISSIONS

United States District Court
for the Eastern and
Southern Districts of New
York

United States District Court
for the District of New
Jersey

Clara M. Villarreal, Senior Counsel with Hickey Smith is a recognized seasoned trial attorney with over 100 jury trials to verdict with an outstanding record of achievement as an accomplished litigator, possessing extensive and diversified legal experience in providing strategic legal analysis, preparation and trial execution of high exposure, multi-million dollar and complex litigations in the areas of construction labor law, products liability, toxic tort, medical malpractice, nursing home liability, general liability, civil rights, insurance defense, insurance coverage and municipal liability.

Before joining Hickey Smith, Clara served as *Senior Counsel* to private law firms, major insurance carriers, corporations, and The City of New York, Office of Corporation Counsel.

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

Clara has served as General Counsel and Attorney Of Record for private firms and international insurance carriers handling high exposure, complex actions, in area of environmental, toxic tort, mass tort products liability, legal malpractice, commercial litigation matters and serious vehicular liability actions involving traumatic brain injury and fatality cases; delivered exceptional results for clients in securing dramatic savings toward indemnity dollars and expenses.

Clara defended The City of New York, as lead trial counsel on high profile, multi-million-dollar exposure litigations within the Special Litigation Unit, Brooklyn and Staten Island Tort Litigation Offices. She obtained a broad record of defense verdicts and favorable settlements as in multi-million dollar exposure litigations, including the Staten Island Ferry Crash cases, federal and state civil rights violations, municipal labor law, sexual assault, prisoner rights, premises and serious municipal motor vehicle liability cases, saving tax payers millions of dollars in authorized settlement funds and potential damages awards. She received the New York City Law Department Division Chief Award in 2010 and 2012.

PUBLISHED WORK AND LECTURES

- New York City Law Department, Civil Trial Advocacy Mock Trial Program in conjunction with Fordham University School of Law, Lecturer/Instructor, Instructed NYC Law Department attorneys on trial skills, evidentiary procedure and effective trial presentation.

ACTIVITIES AND MEMBERSHIP

Clara is an active member of the New York City Bar Association as well as its Tort Litigation Committee.