

Danielle M.S. Riera

Partner
New Orleans
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PRACTICE AREAS

Asbestos Litigation
General Liability
Premises Liability
Products Liability
Toxic Tort Liability

EDUCATION

Louisiana State University, Paul M. Hebert Law Center, JD, Diploma in Comparative Law
Bowling Green State University, BA, International Studies, focus in French

BAR ADMISSIONS

Louisiana
US District Court, Middle District of Louisiana
US District Court, Western District of Louisiana
US District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana
US Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

Overview

Danielle Riera focuses her practice on complex litigation defense, including asbestos litigation. She represents manufacturers, designers, and suppliers of equipment, including heavy equipment and component parts used in automotive, agricultural, and petrochemical and industrial applications. She serves as part of the national coordinating counsel (NCC) team for several long-standing clients, where she helps develop and implement nationwide defense strategies in cases.

Across her asbestos practice, Danielle manages large scale discovery, prepares corporate and expert witnesses for deposition, and conducts extensive investigations to build and preserve corporate histories. She routinely analyzes thousands of pages of historical documents and helps clients assert strong personal jurisdiction defenses. Her work often requires acting as a pseudo historian to support both motion practice and trial strategy.

Danielle serves as local counsel in Louisiana for a global aerospace company in asbestos litigation, ensuring that local litigation strategy aligns seamlessly with national objectives. Beyond her asbestos work, she has experience handling general liability, premises liability, products liability, and other toxic tort liability matters.

Outside of her time at MG+M, Danielle practiced insurance defense, representing insurers and insureds in matters involving premises liability, general liability, automobile accidents, personal injury, and insurance coverage disputes. She previously worked as a law clerk at the Louisiana Workers' Compensation Corporation, served as a student advocate in the LSU Law Juvenile Defense Clinic, and interned for the Honorable Judge Hunter Greene of the Family Court of East Baton Rouge.

During law school, Danielle served as director of communication for the Women's Law Association, worked as an academic tutor and teaching assistant for Federal Civil Procedure, and was a national tax moot court semifinalist in 2016 and 2017.

Experience

+ Served as part of the NCC team for an automotive component company overseeing extensive corporate history investigation

- Managed large-scale document review and corporate deposition preparation for a large agricultural manufacturer, helping streamline national defense themes and played crucial role in contributing to a series of early settlements that reduced overall risks
- Crucial member of defense team in a complex toxic tort premises liability suit spanning a decade in litigation, including significant defense and discovery work-up and preparation of corporate witness for deposition that ultimately resulted in a favorable settlement
- Critical part of NCC team involving motion practice with substantive dispositive and jurisdictional issues resulting in dismissal of matter for large-sale equipment design client
- Participates in national client summits

Recognition

- *Best Lawyers in America: Ones to Watch*, Insurance Law, 2027

Involvement

- Local Program Lead, MG+M National Law Clerk Program, 2023–present
- Leadership Council on Legal Diversity (LCLD) Pathfinder, 2021
- Louisiana State Bar Association
- New Orleans Bar Association
- Federal Bar Association

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