HUSCH BLACKWELL

Ricky M. Guerra

SENIOR COUNSEL

THE LINK VIRTUAL OFFICE
PHONE: 202.378.9345

WASHINGTON, DC*
PHONE: 202.378.2300

EMAIL: RICKY.GUERRA@HUSCHBLACKWELL.COM

OVERVIEW

A seasoned litigator and trial attorney, Ricky defends clients in catastrophic mass tort and product liability cases. He practices from Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania in the Philadelphia area through our Link virtual office.

Ricky regularly handles cases that involve wrongful death or truly catastrophic, life-changing injuries. With experience representing major pharmaceutical and medical device manufacturers, as well as companies in the rental and trucking industries, he regularly serves as local and regional counsel in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Managing a high volume of complex cases, Ricky is comfortable overseeing matters in challenging jurisdictions, including Philadelphia. He has defended product liability, medical malpractice, premises liability, and toxic tort cases.

After 20 years as a litigator, Ricky has primarily served as defense counsel but has also represented plaintiffs, giving him perspective on case strategy from both sides. His extensive trial experience began early—he joined his first trial team within months of starting practice and since then has second chaired many jury trials, first chaired bench trials, and served as lead counsel on several arbitrations. Ricky prepares every case as if it will go to trial, ensuring a strong position whether a case settles or proceeds to verdict. As one of the firm's go-to attorneys for Pennsylvania litigation—especially cases in Philadelphia—he knows these jurisdictions inside and out.

Industries

Manufacturing
Technology
Transportation

Services

Litigation & Alternative Dispute Resolution
Product Liability
Toxic Tort

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Clients rely on Ricky's thorough approach. With a deep love of the investigative process, he takes time to understand each client's industry, business, and employee operations, and he's conscious that seemingly insignificant details can determine the outcome of a case. Having litigated in some of the country's toughest jurisdictions for defendants, Ricky is adept at building a proactive case: he may be counsel for the defense, but he likes to play offense.

Ricky is equally well known for clear communication and keeping clients informed throughout each stage of litigation. By focusing on client goals and maintaining open dialogue, he makes sure his approach aligns with business needs and priorities.

Experience

- Managed all aspects of litigation including pre-suit investigation, legal strategy development, e-discovery related document production, written discovery, preparation and depositions of fact, corporate designee and expert witnesses, and oral argument on motions related to discovery, dispositive motions, and appeals.
- Conducted all aspects of case resolution including mediation, arbitration, and trial.
- Served as defense counsel for pharmaceutical and medical device manufacturers, major health care systems, commercial property owners, airlines, and professional service firms in high value exposure matters involving toxic chemical exposure, catastrophic injury, and wrongful death.
- Served as plaintiff and defense counsel for complex commercial claims involving contract breaches, fraud, corporate veil-piercing, class action certification, copyright and trademark infringement, consumer protection laws, real estate, collection, and international sanctions.
- Acted as regional counsel in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware for a national dialysis provider in matters related to medical malpractice, negligence, premises liability, and commercial contracts.
- Served as regional counsel on matters related to laboratory services, healthcare, personal care homes, pharmaceutical drugs, professional services, automobiles, aviation, and banking including personal injury, premises liability, products liability, mass tort, employment, franchise, replevin, trademark protection, mortgage foreclosure, debt collection, and commercial landlord tenant claims.

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Experience

- Successful zero liability defense of a product matter with exposure over $2.5 million.
- Won two defense verdicts in Philadelphia Compulsory Arbitration slip and fall matter.
- Won summary judgment for defendant franchisor in vicarious liability suit (affirmed on appeal following oral argument).
- Won summary judgment for defendant clinic based on lack of duty to business invitee.
- Won summary judgment for a defendant-tenant in premises liability matter based on statute of limitations defense.
- Pierced the corporate veil against judgment proof entities to recover large settlement.

Education

- M.B.A., Villanova University School of Business
- J.D., Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law
- B.S., University of Texas

Admissions

- Pennsylvania
- New Jersey
- U.S. District Court, District of New Jersey
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Pennsylvania
- U.S. District Court, Middle District of Pennsylvania
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Pennsylvania

Ricky is associated with the Washington DC office for telephone and mail purposes only. He is not admitted to practice in District of Columbia.

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Clerkships

- Honorable Kenneth M. Hoyt, U.S. District Court, Southern District of Texas
- Honorable Lillian H. Ransom, Pennsylvania Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County

Community Leadership

- Neighborhood Club of Bala Cynwyd, President, 2020-2021; Vice President, 2019; Director, 2017-2019
- Federation of Civic Associations of Lower Merion Township & Narberth, President, 2021-2022; Vice President, 2019-2021; Secretary, 2017-2019
- St. John's Episcopal Church, Vestry Member, 2017-2021
- Philadelphia Volunteers for the Indigent Program, 2016-present
- Vernon Young Premier Basketball League, Coach, present
- King of Prussia Soccer Club, Team Manager, 2023-2024
- Lower Merion Soccer Club, Assistant Coach, 2017-2018

After growing up with Deaf parents, Ricky is fluent in American Sign Language and enjoys providing pro bono legal services to Deaf individuals.

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*Ricky works remotely and is licensed in Pennsylvania, practicing in Bala Cynwyd, PA. Contact Ricky via email or phone for in-person/virtual meetings. Use the Washington, DC office address for mail/deliveries only.

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