



Mario M. Ruiz
Member
West Palm Beach
P: 305.704.3978

Practice Focus

- Appeals
- Business litigation
- Real estate litigation
- Insurance and suretyship
- Title insurance litigation
- Data privacy litigation
- Data privacy and cybersecurity

Mario M. Ruiz is a member in the Litigation Department. Board Certified in Business Litigation Law, Mario is most at home in the courtroom. With more than 25 years of experience, he has served as lead trial counsel in numerous jury and bench trials, helping clients navigate complex disputes in the areas of business, real estate, title insurance, banking and construction. Drawing on his roots as a law clerk in the Appellate courts, he also has substantial experience as lead appellate counsel. Frequently, Mario handles a case from beginning to end, including the lower court proceedings through trial, and then the appeal through oral argument.

Mario is particularly adept at developing winning legal arguments that efficiently conclude the case favorably to the client. In many instances, Mario is able to win a complex case via a dispositive motion, which saves the client the time, expense and uncertainty of prolonged litigation and trial. Mario takes each of his clients' cases to heart, becomes personally invested, and strives to prepare it as though it were his own.

Mario earned a J.D. cum laude from the University of Miami School of Law in 1991 and a B.A. from Florida International University in 1988. From 1991 to 1993, Mario served as a law clerk for the Honorable David M. Gersten, Third District Court of Appeal. Before joining McDonald Hopkins in 2017, Mario was a member at Cohen | Ruiz. He is fluent in Spanish.

Representative Cases/Matters

- Gumuchidjian v. DJS Marketing Group, 654 So. 2d 307 (Fla. 3d DCA 1995)
- Lawyers Title Ins. Co. v. Novastar, 862 So. 2d 793 (Fla. 4th DCA 2003)
- Prime West v. Camargo, 906 So. 2d 1112 (Fla. 3d DCA 2005)
- Winkler v. Lawyers Title Ins. Corp., 41 So. 3d 414 (Fla. 3d DCA 2010)

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- Warren v. Premiere Abstract & Title, LLC, 49 So. 3d 1281 (Fla. 4th DCA 2010)
- Gonzalez v. Rivero, 51 So. 3d 534 (Fla. 3d DCA 2010)
- Lake Buena Vista Vacation Resort v. Lawyers Title Ins. Co., 95 So. 3d 244 (Fla. 5th DCA 2012)
- Castelo Development, LLC v. Rawls, 118 So. 3d 831 (Fla. 3d DCA 2012)
- Jackson v. Attorneys' Title Ins. Fund, Inc. 132 So. 3d 167 (Fla. 3d DCA 2013)
- Nikooie v. JP Morgan Chase Bank N.A., 183 So. 3d 424 (Fla. 3d DCA 2014)
- DePrince v. Starboard Cruise Services, Inc., 163 So. 3d 586 (Fla. 3d DCA 2015)
- Finazzo v. Attorneys' Title Ins. Fund, Inc., 203 So. 3d 167 (Fla. 3d DCA 2016)

Admissions - Court

- U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida

Admissions - State

- Florida

Education

- University of Miami School of Law
- Florida International University

Honors and Awards

- Inter-American Law Review, Associate Editor
- Graduated cum laude from the University of Miami School of Law

Professional Membership

- Dade County Bar Association
- Florida Land Title Association

Public Service and Volunteerism

- Chair, Florida Land Title Association Roundtable 2013-16
- Former Board Member, Dominican American National Foundation

News

- "Oops! Cruise-Ship Buyer Gets Another Chance to Snag Dramatically Discounted Diamond"
- The attorneys of Cohen | Ruiz join the Miami office of McDonald Hopkins

Events

- Scams and Frauds in Real Estate Transactions | Friday, May 11, 2018

Speaking Engagements

- Frequent lecturer at the Florida Land Title Association Roundtable