

Darleene D. Peters

PARTNER

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Darleene represents pharmaceutical and medical device manufacturers in Louisiana and throughout the country, in federal and state court, as well as in numerous multi-district litigation (MDL) matters. She has extensive experience with all phases of litigation, formulating strategic approaches in the defense of these matters, assessing and identifying lawsuit merits, and devising creative settlement strategies. Darleene actively managed and participated in the comprehensive affirmative discovery and motion practice for the MDL transvaginal mesh litigation matters, which, at one time, was one of the largest complex litigation/multi-district products liability litigation in MDL history.

She is also involved in the retention, development, and preparation of experts for depositions, hearings, and trials and has worked with numerous experts in various fields, including, but not limited to cardiology, endocrinology, epidemiology, environmental exposures, gynecology/urogynecology, hydrology, infectious diseases, psychiatry, and toxicology, as well as forensic experts.

Darleene's current practice also includes defending corporate clients in environmental and occupational disease hazards cases involving asbestos exposure. She has also handled Railroad Litigation matters including the defense of derailments, grade-crossing accidents, personal injury and wrongful death actions, and trespasser claims. Her Railroad Litigation experience also includes the defense of employee lawsuits arising under the Federal Employers' Liability Act (FELA).

During her tenure with the firm, Darleene also served as a Judicial Law Clerk for Magistrate Judge Karen Wells Roby at the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana.

Darleene is a proud native of New Orleans. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Xavier University of LA. She simultaneously earned her Juris Doctor and Master of Business

Practice Areas

Asbestos
Complex Litigation
Pharmaceutical & Medical Device
Railroad & Transportation
Products Liability

Admissions

Louisiana State Courts
United States District Court
Eastern, Middle, and Western
Districts of Louisiana

Education

J.D., Loyola University College of Law (1998)
M.B.A., Loyola University College of Business (1998)
B.S., Xavier University of LA (1991)

Administration degrees in three years from Loyola University College of Law and Loyola University College of Business. Darleene also serves as the Chairperson of the firm's Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee.

Experience

Actively managed and participated in the comprehensive affirmative discovery and motion practice for the MDL transvaginal mesh litigation matters, which, at one time, was one of the largest complex litigation products liability litigation in MDL History

Honors & Recognitions

President's Award, Greater New Orleans Louis A. Martinet Society (2021)

CityBusiness Leadership in Law, 2012

National Diversity Council (Louisiana Chapter) – Selected to serve as a Women's Symposium Chairperson

Civic Affiliations

- Xavier University of LA Business Advisory Council
 - Board Member, The Pro Bono Project
 - Board Member, R. C. Blakes, Sr. Scholarship Fund Board of Directors
 - Attorney Volunteer, Civil District Court Help Desk for Self-Represented Litigants
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Professional Affiliations

- Federation of Defense & Corporate Counsel (FDCC)
 - Defense Research Institute (DRI)
 - The National Black Lawyers Top 100
 - Louisiana State Bar Association
 - New Orleans Bar Association, Wellness and Stress Management Committee
 - Greater New Orleans Louis A. Martinet Legal Society, Wellness Contributor
 - Institute for Well-Being in Law (IWIL), Co-Chairperson of Communications Committee
 - 2016 Co-Chairperson, National Diversity Council's Louisiana Chapter – Women in Leadership Symposium
 - 2014 Graduate of the International Association of Defense Counsel (IADC) Trial Academy
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- 2006 Graduate of the American Bar Association Tort, Trial & Insurance Practice Section (TIPS) Academy
- National Association of Women Lawyers (NAWL)
- Women of Color in Pharma (WOCIP)
- Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM), new Orleans Chapter
- Certified Nutrition Coach by Precision Nutrition (PN)
- Certified Health and Wellness Coach, American Fitness Professionals & Associates (AFPA)

News

Irwin Fritchie Announces Launch of Updated Firm Branding, Including Modernized Website Redesign
Irwin Fritchie Urquhart Moore & Daniels LLC, is excited to announce the launch of updated firm branding, including an updated logo and color scheme, and a more modernized and user-friendly website.

[NEWS, 11.30.2022](#)

Irwin Fritchie Elects 3 New Partners

[NEWS, 12.1.2021](#)

Irwin Fritchie's Commitment to Combating Racial Injustice

[NEWS, 6.10.2020](#)

Irwin Fritchie listed as one of the best firms for minority attorneys by Law 360

[NEWS, 6.19.2018](#)

Irwin Fritchie recognized by Best Lawyers as a "Best Law Firm" in 9 practice areas.

[NEWS, 11.1.2016](#)

Irwin Fritchie named one of Best Places to Work by CityBusiness

[NEWS, 9.16.2016](#)

Irwin Fritchie receives A rating in Above the Law Gender Diversity Index

[NEWS, 5.25.2016](#)

Publications

Can You Have It All?

Women's Equity Event, National Bar Association's Women Lawyers Division

[PUBLICATION, June 30, 2022](#)

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and Workplace Well-Being

DRI Diversity Insider

[PUBLICATION, November, 23, 2021](#)

Getting to the Roots: How to Be a Good Associate

New Orleans Bar Association, Procrastinators' Program, Continuing Legal Education

PUBLICATION, December 18, 2018

Professionalism in the Courtroom: the Do's and Don'ts from the Pros

New Orleans Bar Association, Continuing Legal Education Program

PUBLICATION, 2016

My Life as a Lawyer-Strengthening the Pipeline of Future Lawyers

Corporate Counsel Women of Color's (CCWC) Pipeline Development Program

PUBLICATION, 2015

Inaugural Best Practices Seminar, Facilitator

National Diversity Council, Louisiana Chapter

PUBLICATION, 2015

Maintaining Longevity in the Profession

New Orleans Bar Association, Continuing Legal Education Program

PUBLICATION, 2015

Managing Career Risk and Work-Life Balance in the 21st Century

National Diversity Council's Louisiana Chapter – Women's Conference and Women in Leadership

PUBLICATION, September 2011 through 2014