

Sara Soto

Principal

Fort Lauderdale

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Sara Soto's practice encompasses a broad range of business litigation and arbitration matters. She has represented brokerage firms, banks, corporations and individuals in arbitration and litigation involving customers, employees, other institutions and individuals.

Sara offers her clients decades of tangible experience representing broker-dealers in arbitrations brought by customers involving equities, fixed income, structured products, limited partnerships, options, managed accounts, margin and other financial products. She is also adept in navigating her clients through regulatory proceedings and internal investigations.

A tenacious litigator and influential problem solver, Sara is involved in state and federal court litigation and in arbitrations involving commercial and employment disputes, such as claims for injunctive relief and damages for violation of restrictive covenants, theft of trade secrets, wrongful/constructive termination, whistleblowing, raiding, breach of contract, fraud and tortious interference, among many other topics. Sara has also resolved literally hundreds of business disputes through negotiation and mediation, eliminating both the cost and risk of litigation. She is valued by her clients for her pragmatic approach toward business litigation.

Sara is also a member of Bressler's Senior and Vulnerable Investor Group. The lawyers in this group have a shared interest in providing counsel to corporate clients who confront issues affecting seniors.

Awards & Accolades

- Recognized in the Chambers USA Guide to "America's Leading Lawyers for Business," Litigation: Securities, 2022
- Selected to the list of *Martindale-Hubbell AV*[®] Preeminent Lawyers

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AREAS OF PRACTICE

Alternative Dispute Resolution
Business & Commercial Litigation
Corporate Fiduciaries
Employment Strategic Advice & Counseling
Financial Institutions
Financial Institutions Litigation and Arbitration
FINRA Employment Arbitrations
General Litigation
Labor & Employment Law
Labor & Employment Litigation
Senior & Vulnerable Investor Group
Trade Secrets & Unfair Competition

EDUCATION

- University of Miami School of Law, J.D., *cum laude*, 1978
- University of Miami, B.A., *magna cum laude*, 1975

- Selected to the list of "Top Rated Lawyers" by *American Lawyer Media* and *Martindale-Hubbell*, 2013
- Included in the list of the *Best Lawyers in America*®, 2010-2024
- Received the *Best Lawyers in America*®, "Lawyer of the Year" award for Litigation-Securities in Jacksonville, 2013"
- Selected to the list of *Super Lawyers*, 2011-2014

No aspect of this or any advertisement has been approved by the Supreme Court of New Jersey. A description of the award methodologies can be found here.

Experience

- Defense counsel for international private bank in customer Federal Court case claiming fraud and breach of fiduciary duty
- Lead counsel representing major broker-dealer in defense of claim by municipal pension plan in State Court
- Member of the Bressler trial team representing a major brokerage firm in the defense of hundreds of claims arising out of sales of closed-end bond funds
- Lead counsel in hundreds of arbitrations defending customer claims against broker-dealers
- Representation of employers in cases brought in court and arbitration involving common law and statutory claims and counterclaims by and against employees and independent contractors
- Representation of clearing firms in disputes involving claims of wrongdoing by introducing firms or their employees, as well as breach of clearing agreements
- Lead counsel in international commercial arbitration conducted entirely in Spanish
- Lead trial counsel in partnership/joint venture dispute involving business tort claims and RICO and business tort counterclaims, culminating in six-week jury trial in Federal Court
- Lead trial counsel in copyright dispute tried to jury verdict in Federal Court
- Representation of national accounting firm in tortious interference claims in State Court
- Counsel in partnership and breach of contract dispute culminating in six-month jury trial in State Court

ADMISSIONS

Florida

U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida

U.S. District Court, Northern District of Florida

U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida

U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit

U.S. Supreme Court

LANGUAGES

Spanish

News & Alerts

52 Bressler Attorneys Recognized by Best Lawyers in America 2024, Including 2 “Lawyer of the Year” and 16 “Ones to Watch”

Firm News, 08.17.2023

Chambers USA 2023 Recognizes 13 Bressler Attorneys and Five Practice Areas

Firm News, 06.01.2023

Speaking Engagements & Events

Seniors 301 - The Fragile Framework of Senior Protection: Exposure Under Existing Law

Webinar, 11.14.2023

Arbitration v. Litigation: Which Forum Better Serves Your Business

Webinar, 10.18.2023

Professional Affiliations

- Committee Member, National Arbitration & Mediation Committee, FINRA, 2022-2025
- Member, Compliance & Legal Society, Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA)
- Member, American Bar Association
- Member, Dade County Bar Association
- Advisory Board Member, Southeast Women in Financial Services

Get to Know Sara

When Sara is not practicing law, she enjoys reading and cooking with friends and family, supervised by her three dogs.