

Maria del Carmen Ramos

PARTNER, IMMIGRATION
SERVICE LINE LEADER

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VCard



Clients across multiple industries frequently turn to Maria for her knowledge and experience in counseling on immigration issues. Nine times named as Tampa's top immigration lawyer, Maria understands that immigration law is a way for employers to move human capital— including workers' knowledge, talent, skills, experience, and training—around the world. She has nearly two decades of experience navigating the immigration statutes, regulations, and policy of the nation's complex immigration laws.

With a deep breadth of knowledge in this area of law, Maria counsels her clients on all the immigration options available to them, including:

- Business visas (E-3, H-1B, H-1B1, H-3, L, O, P, R, and TN)
- Investment visas (E-2, EB-5, and others)
- Permanent residence status
- I-9 obligations
- Compliance audits on verification systems for employee eligibility

Maria has twice won JD Supra's Reader's Choice Award for blogging on immigration law issues. She has also served as the Chair of the Hillsborough County Bar Association's Immigration Section, a fellow of The Florida Bar Leadership Academy, and a

SERVICE LINE

Immigration
Labor & Employment

INDUSTRY SECTOR

Health Care
Manufacturing
Retail & Consumer
Technology

PRIMARY LOCATION

Tampa, FL

member of the Board of Directors for the Central Florida Chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers Association. In her free time, she loves spending time with her two young daughters and her husband. A native of Puerto Rico, Maria enjoyed traveling to Western Europe, the Caribbean, and Latin America.

LANGUAGES

Spanish

BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

Florida, 2000

United States Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit, 2001

United States District Court, Middle District of Florida, 2001

United States District Court, Northern District of Florida, 2001

United States District Court, Southern District of Florida, 2001

EDUCATION

J.D., University of Miami
School of Law, 2000

B.A., Yale University, 1996

PROFESSIONAL & COMMUNITY AFFILIATIONS

- The Florida Bar Wm. Reece Smith, Jr. Leadership Academy, Class III Fellow
- The Florida Bar Judicial Administration and Evaluations Committee, Member (2016-2018)
- The Florida Bar Leadership Academy Committee, Member (2018-2020)
- American Immigration Lawyers Association, Member
 - Business Immigration Response Team, Member (2020)
 - Business Section Steering Committee, Member (2021)
 - Distance Learning Committee, Current Member (2020, 2021, 2024-2025)
- American Immigration Lawyers Association, Central Florida Chapter, Tampa Regional Vice Chair
 - Tampa Regional Vice Chair (2016-2018, 2024-2025)
 - Incoming Education Vice Chair (2018-2019, 2022-2023)
 - Education Vice Chair (2019-2020)
 - Director (2020-2021)
- Tampa Bay Chamber, Minority Business Accelerator, Leadership Council, Member
- Hillsborough County Bar Association, Chair Immigration & Nationality Law Section (2014-2016)
- Professionalism Committee for the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit, Member
- Hispanic Business Initiative Fund of Florida, Regional Council Member (2014-2017)
- Tampa Hispanic Bar Association, Director (2014-2018)
- Hispanic National Bar Association, Latina Commission Member (2017-2018)
- Wm. Reece Smith, Jr., Litigation American Inn of Court, President
- Unaccompanied Immigrant Children Committee of the 13th Judicial Circuit Community Alliance, Member
- Working Women of Tampa Bay, VIP Member
- Yale Club of Tampa Bay
- Tampa Connection (Class of 2009–2010)

HONORS

- AV[®] Peer Review Rated by Martindale-Hubbell
- International Person of the Year by Tampa Bay Organization of Women in International Trade, 2025
- Top Latino Lawyer by *Latino Leaders Magazine*, 2023
- Top Author: Immigration, JD Supra Readers' Choice Award
 - 2017, Technology, Financial Services, Insurance, Healthcare, Telecommunications Industries
 - 2016, Semiconductor, Broadcast Media, and Medical Devices Industries
- *Best Lawyers in America*, 2021 – 2024
- Tampa Top Lawyers, Immigration Law, *Tampa Magazine*, 2016-2025
- Florida Legal Elite by *Florida Trend* magazine, 2015-2018, 2020, 2021
- Florida Rising Star by *Super Lawyers* magazine, 2010-2014
- Latino American Who's Who, 2014
- President's Award, Tampa Hispanic Bar Association, 2017