



Cynthia Castillo

Senior Associate

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Cynthia Castillo represents clients in a wide range of complex litigation matters, including contract disputes, fraud and tort litigation, and consumer class actions. She has experience with all phases of litigation, including achieving early resolutions of disputes through pre-litigation negotiations, drafting dispositive motions, managing complex e-discovery, and representing clients at trial. Cynthia is the co-chair of Farella's Cannabis Litigation Initiative, and she has experience in representing clients in disputes relating to the cannabis industry.

Her experience includes:

- Successfully defending a private equity management firm at trial in an employment and breach of contract suit brought by one of its former officers;
- Representing a cannabis technology company in a putative Telephone Consumer Protection Act class action;
- Representing a major technology company in a consumer class action;
- Representing a private equity firm in a fraud case;
- Defending a major energy company in a fraud action, in which the court granted the company's motion to compel arbitration; and
- Representing a major cancer services provider and its affiliates in their Chapter 11 bankruptcy cases, which included obtaining a favorable settlement related to potential liability for a consumer data breach.

Cynthia maintains an active pro bono practice, which has included assisting a victim of domestic violence from Honduras to obtain asylum in the United States.

Cynthia served as a law clerk for the Honorable Philip Martinez of the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas. Before attending law school, she taught 4th and 6th grade with Teach for America.

Distinctions

- *Best Lawyers in America: Ones to Watch, Commercial Litigation (2024)*

Memberships and Affiliations

- Member, Executive Committee, Litigation Section, Barristers Club of the Bar Association of San Francisco
- Member, Edward J. McFetridge American Inn of Court (2021)
- Board of Directors, San Francisco La Raza Lawyers Association; co-chair Latina Committee, which serves as a network for Latina lawyers practicing in the Bay Area.

Publications

May 13, 2022

Litigation Trends In the Private Equity and Venture Capital Space

Services

- Business Litigation
- Cannabis
- Bankruptcy, Restructuring, and Creditors' Rights

Education

- University of Virginia School of Law (J.D., 2014)
 - notes editor, Virginia Law Review; president, Latin American Law Organization
- University of Pennsylvania (M.S., 2009)
- University of Texas (B.A., 2007)
 - High Honors, Phi Beta Kappa

Bar Admissions

- California

Clerkships

- U.S. District Court (W.D. Texas), Philip Martinez

Upside

May 18, 2021

How to Comply With the TCPA After the Facebook Supreme Court Decision

May 7, 2021

Complying With the TCPA After the Facebook Supreme Court Decision

Cannabis Business Executive

May 5, 2021

North Coast Cannabis Industry Conference

North Bay Business Journal

April 21, 2021

New Restrictions on Sales and Delivery of E-Cigarettes and Vaping Products

January 30, 2021

Alternatives to Bankruptcy in the Cannabis Sector

Marijuana Venture

June 2, 2020

Cannabis Disputes: How to Minimize Your Litigation Risks

Cannabis Industry Education Series

Outside the Office

Cynthia spends much of her free time experimenting in the kitchen—practicing and tweaking recipes, sometimes for months, until she gets them just right. Her specialties are pastas and desserts.