



RUSING LOPEZ
& LIZARDI
ATTORNEYS AT LAW



Daniel B. Bernardone

PARTNER

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Daniel Bernardone is a RL&L partner in our litigation department.

Dan is an Arizona litigator whose practice primarily consists of commercial litigation, insurance coverage, insurance bad-faith litigation, and civil litigation.

Dan is a graduate of Arizona State University's Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law, where he served as Executive Editor of the *Jurimetrics Law Journal*, externed for the Honorable Michelle Burns (U.S. District Court, District of Arizona) and was inducted into the Order of Barristers.

Dan's practice includes experience dealing with insurance carriers and insurance coverage issues. At his previous firm, he represented insurance companies in several capacities, usually by advising them on insurance coverage matters or defending them in bad-faith lawsuits. Through that experience, he has gained an intimate knowledge of how insurance policies work and what a carrier's duties to its policyholder are. As a result, clients often seek him out when dealing with insurance coverage and recovery issues or where there is a bad-faith claim. He has experience with both personal lines and commercial lines, including the following coverages: commercial general liability (CGL) and businessowners, commercial automobile liability, cyber liability, pollution, errors, and omission (malpractice), directors and officers, homeowners, dwelling, etc. He has also dealt with Damron/Morris-type agreements, a unique arrangement under Arizona law where, in certain circumstances, policyholders may avoid personal liability by assigning their rights to a claimant.

With respect to his commercial litigation practice, Dan has represented creditors and debtors in loan repayment disputes, partners in complex business divorces, creditor trusts in Chapter 11 bankruptcies, companies in sale disputes, landlords and tenants in commercial real estate disputes, group homes, financial services companies, and more.

Finally, Dan also has broad civil litigation experience representing plaintiffs and defendants in a variety of torts, ranging from motor vehicle accidents and slip and fall incidents to defamation claims. He is active with the Arizona Association of Defense Counsel and previously served as President of the organization's Young Lawyers Division.



EDUCATION

**Arizona State University,
Sandra Day O'Connor College
of Law (J.D. 2016)**

- Executive Editor, *Jurimetrics, The Journal of Law, Science, and Technology*
- Pedrick Scholar
- The Order of Barristers
- Judicial Extern for the Hon. Michelle Burns – U.S. District Court for Arizona
- Executive Moot Court Board: Chair of Operations and Internal Competitions, 2014-2015; Chair of Recruitment, 2015-2016
- Highest Pro Bono Distinction

**Marist College, B.A. Political
Science, 2013**

ADMISSIONS

- Arizona State Bar
- U.S. District Court / District of Arizona

PRACTICES

- Contracts
- Personal Injury
- Business Formation & Corporate Governance
- Creditors' Rights & Bankruptcy
- Business Litigation
- Professional Malpractice
- Insurance Claims & Insurance Coverage Litigation
- Appellate Representation
- Mergers, Acquisitions & Divestitures

Practice Experience

- Christian, Dichter & Sluga, PC 2017 - 2021
- Warnock MacKinlay Law, PLLC 2016 - 2017

Professional Memberships and Activities

- Arizona Association of Defense Counsel: Young Lawyers Division, President

Honors & Awards

- *Southwest Super Lawyers Rising Stars*, Insurance Coverage, 2020 - 2022
- *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch®* in America, Commercial Litigation and Corporate Governance and Compliance Law, 2024

Personal

In his free time, Dan enjoys both watching and playing soccer, playing chess, traveling, and volunteering as an occasional coach for external moot court competitions.