



Ricardo Meza

Ricardo represents clients in the banking, construction and health care fields. He serves as outside general counsel to a federally qualified health center with multiple Illinois locations.

Ricardo has extensive litigation and trial experience, having served as a federal prosecutor for over 10 years. Specifically, he served as an Assistant United States Attorney in the Northern District of Illinois and the Western District of Texas and has tried over 34 federal trials, nearly all of which were to a jury. His experience and insight give him a deep context for his work, which includes handling sensitive business and litigation related issues. He has also managed and directed high-level investigations, which provide him with a unique business perspective for corporations, healthcare entities, universities, non-profit organizations and public entities.

In 2010, Ricardo was senate confirmed as Illinois' executive inspector general and served in that position until 2015. As head of the independent Office of Executive Inspector General for the Agencies of the Illinois Governor, Ricardo ran all operations, including administrative and fiscal. At the OEIG, he oversaw and supervised a staff of over 75 employees, including all assistant IGs and investigators.

Before his tenure as EIG, Ricardo spent five years as Midwest Regional Counsel for the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, a leading Latino civil rights organization where he led the office's litigation and public policy matters. Ricardo has also served as an assistant attorney general II in Texas where he represented the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts in complex civil tax litigation matters, as well as in sales, use and franchise tax matters. Ricardo also served as a law clerk for the late Honorable Wendell C. Radford, US Magistrate Judge for the ED of Texas.

Awards & Recognition

- John Marshall Law School, *Distinguished Service Award* (2012)
- Illinois Legislative Latino Caucus *Service Award* (2011)
- Chicago Bar Association, *Vanguard Award* (2010)

Professional/Community Involvement

- Illinois Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission, Hearing Board Member
- Northwestern Memorial Foundation, Board Member
- Chicago Inn of Courts, Master of the Bench

CONTACT INFORMATION

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