Michala Black Lambert

Associate

Richmond

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OVERVIEW

Michala is an associate in the firm's Consumer Financial Services Practice Group. She represents loan servicers, auto finance companies, national and community banks, and mortgage lending institutions in state and federal court litigation involving consumer finance disputes as well as related regulatory and government investigation matters.

Earlier in her career, Michala served as an assistant district attorney in Philadelphia, where she worked as a trial attorney advocating in court proceedings, negotiating case resolutions, and collaborating with court officials, community organizations, and probation. She is experienced in complex litigation, jury trials, and compliance matters, representing health care providers and insurance carriers in administrative proceedings, government investigations, and disputes in and out of the courtroom.

Michala is committed to active leadership in the community and maintains a robust pro bono practice.

AWARDS

- The National Black Lawyers Virginia Region, Top 40 Under 40 (2022-present)
- Young Lawyers Conference Significant Service Award, Virginia State Bar Young Lawyers Conference Board of Governors, Richmond, VA (May 2024)
- Branstetter Litigation and Dispute Resolution Summer Fellow, Vanderbilt University Law School Litigation and Dispute Resolution Program (May-July 2018)

TOP AREAS OF FOCUS

- Consumer Financial Services
- Financial Services

PROFESSIONAL/COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Politically Appointed board member, Thrive Virginia

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- Board member, Virginia, Young Lawyers Section of Virginia State Bar, 2025-2026
- Chair, Project Discovery Advisory Council, 2026
- Vice-chair Medical Malpractice Section, Virginia Association of Defense Attorneys, 2025-2026
- Defense Research Institute, 2025
- Mentor, Virginia, Leadership Council on Legal Diversity, 2023-2024

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Assistant district attorney, Philadelphia District Attorney's Office, 2022
- Judicial intern, Honorable Alistair E. Newbern, USDC for Middle District of Tennessee, 2018
- Intern, Office of Attorney General, Richmond, VA, 2018
- Intern, Hampton Commonwealth Attorney's Office, 2017
- Fellowship, Delaware Law School Jurist Academy, 2014

EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATIONS

EDUCATION

- Temple University Beasley School of Law, LL.M., 2022, trial advocacy
- Vanderbilt University Law School, J.D., 2019, Dean's scholarship; member; Mock Trial Team; Black Law Students Association
- University of Virginia, B.A., 2016, Dean's List; executive board, Undergraduate Black Law Students Association

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Virginia
- Pennsylvania

COURT ADMISSIONS

- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Pennsylvania
- U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Eastern District of Pennsylvania
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Virginia
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Virginia

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- CLE Presentation speaker, "Strategies for Undermining Plaintiffs' Claims for Past and Future Medical Expenses," Virginia Association of Defense Attorneys, May 1, 2026.

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