

Nick J. DiGiovanni

Partner

Chicago

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With more than 35 years in commercial litigation surrounding reinsurance and insurance matters, Nick represents global insurance giants as ceding companies, reinsurers, and retrocessionaires. He handles high-stakes disputes across all lines of business in litigation, arbitration, insolvency, and rehabilitation proceedings.

OVERVIEW

Nick has significant experience defending insurers and reinsurers in complex arbitrations and court cases. These involve professional malpractice, breach of representations and warranties, M&A disputes, asbestos and pollution claims, directors and officers liability, cybersecurity issues, and regulatory challenges under state insurance laws.

Nick offers clients a comprehensive approach to resolving disputes, which often involves navigating intricate issues such as fraud claims, treaty interpretation, bad faith actions, and scope of arbitration clauses. His extensive experience includes handling matters involving facultative certificates, MGA agreements, surety bonds, and various reinsurance treaties.

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- Participated in numerous arbitrations under the Federal Arbitration Act, state arbitration acts, and Bermuda and English arbitration law.
- Represented a major health care insurer in collecting damages in a \$300 million dispute in Texas regarding the sale of two HMOs. The issues included the valuation of reserves and application of actuarial and accounting principles as they relate to the health care industry.
- Represented numerous life reinsurance companies regarding rate disputes involving yearly renewable term treaties.
- Defended the London market in connection with disputes involving a captive insurance company and more than \$1.5 billion in environmental and health hazard claims. The case was litigated in the Supreme Court of Massachusetts, Northern District of New York, Supreme Court of Bermuda, and House of Lords in London.
- Represented a life reinsurance company in a case of first impression regarding YRT Treaty Rate increases.
- Represented a large international reinsurer in collecting \$45 million of amounts due under a quota share treaty reinsuring an Argentinian pension fund business.
- Prosecuted a case for a major U.S. reinsurance company with respect to claims of rescission on \$40 million of retrocessional coverage relating to a small group medical quota share treaty.

- Defended a major U.S. life reinsurer in a \$30 million dispute regarding a contract interpretation of recapture provisions.
- Represented an international property and casualty reinsurer concerning large catastrophe losses associated with Hurricane Katrina.
- Obtained a \$12 million rescission judgment for a large international property and casualty reinsurer.
- Represented a large international insurer and reinsurer regarding an aggregation of COVID-19 related losses.
- Acted as national coordinating counsel for a large U.S. insurer with respect to workers' compensation claims related to COVID-19.
- Represented a U.S. bond insurer in a \$25 million dispute with the Department of Justice regarding immigration and bail bonds.
- Represented a large U.S. reinsurer regarding surety bond disputes.

AWARDS

- *Lexology Index: Thought Leaders: Insurance and Reinsurance (formerly Who's Who Legal)* (2025)
- *Chambers USA: Insurance: Dispute Resolution: Reinsurance, Illinois* (2016-2025) and *Nationwide* (2025)
- *Lexology Index: Global Elite Thought Leader, Insurance and Reinsurance (formerly Who's Who Legal)* (2023-2024)
- *Best Lawyers in America®: Insurance Law* (2006-2026) *Reinsurance Law* (2021-2026)
- *The Legal 500 United States, Accomplishments in the Reinsurance Practice* (2019)
- *Best Lawyers in America®: Lawyer of the Year, Chicago Insurance Law* (2016)
- *Guide to the World's Leading Experts, Insurance and Reinsurance* (2013)
- *Intelligent Insurer, The Legal Elite* (2013)
- *Best of the Best USA, Insurance and Reinsurance Practice* (2009)

TOP AREAS OF FOCUS

- Financial Services
- Insurance + Reinsurance
- Litigation + Trial
- Reinsurance

ALL AREAS OF FOCUS

- Financial Services
- General Liability
- Insurance + Reinsurance
- Insurance Commercial Litigation
- Litigation + Trial
- Reinsurance

PROFESSIONAL/COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Member, Chicago Bar Association
- Member, American Bar Association

- Board of directors, Coordinated Advice and Referral Program
- Member, AIDA Reinsurance and Insurance Arbitration

EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATIONS

EDUCATION

- University of Notre Dame, J.D., *cum laude*, 1980
- Southern Methodist University, B.B.A., *cum laude*, 1977

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Illinois

COURT ADMISSIONS

- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Eighth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit

MEDIA COMMENTARY

- Quoted, "Reinsurance Rates Likely To Rise Due To Disasters, Demand," *Law360*, November 24, 2021.