



Michelle J. d'Arcambal

Partner

Co-Chair, Life, Health, Disability & ERISA Group

Co-Chair, Commercial Litigation Group

Michelle d'Arcambal is a founding partner of d'QM with more than 30 years of experience defending companies in all aspects of commercial litigation, including class actions, mediations, arbitrations, appeals, and trial.

Ms. d'Arcambal has a thirty year history of litigating complicated commercial litigation matters involving securities, real estate and banking. More recently, her matters have included claims of improper securitization and assignments of mortgages and breaches of digital advertising and mortgage servicing contracts.

Ms. d'Arcambal has litigated more than fifty life and disability product rescissions, through motions for summary judgment, mediation, trials and appeals. She has a deep understanding of STOLI and speculative policies, as well as sales practices and policy contract litigation. She has also defended scores of ERISA matters. For more than fifteen years Ms. d'Arcambal handled cutting edge health insurance benefits matters and provider contracts and fraud.

Ms. d'Arcambal developed a unique understanding of corporations and their businesses while working in the Legal Department of MetLife. There, she defended the company in nationwide class actions relating to allegations concerning the sale of individual life insurance products in connection with the "vanishing premium" litigation.

Ms. d'Arcambal was previously a partner in the New York City office of Ross & Hardies, now known as McGuire Woods LLP, where she concentrated on banking and real estate litigation. Ms. d'Arcambal began her legal career in the litigation department of Brown & Wood, LLP, now known as Sidley Austin, LLP where she concentrated on securities, surety and real estate litigation, including a rotation into the municipal bonds department.

AFFILIATIONS AND ACTIVITIES

- Spearheaded and Co-Chaired NAMWOLF Insurance Initiative (2005-2012)
- Steering Committee of the CARE Women's Initiative of New York
- Co-Chair of the ACLI's Class Action Working Group (1994-1997)

SPEECHES AND PUBLICATIONS

- On May 16, 2023, Vedant Gokhale, Michelle d'Arcambal, and Jackie Malyk presented a CLE for a client discussing the nuts and bolts of rescission and lapse of an insurance policy, avoiding interpleader pitfalls, and strategies to use during discovery and litigation.
- On April 9, 2025, Michelle d'Arcambal and a client gave a presentation entitled "The Rescission Decision," at the DRI 2025 Life, Health, Disability, and ERISA Seminar. The presentation focused on strategies for rescinding life and disability insurance policies.
- On March 11, 2024, Michelle d'Arcambal and a client gave a presentation entitled "Litigating Life and Disability Policies: Differences and Similarities That Will Make a Difference in Evaluating Risk and Devising Strategy," at the Eastern Claims Conference. The presentation focused on the core differences between the issuances, claims, denials, and litigation strategies of life insurance policies versus disability policies.
- On April 15, 2020, Michelle d'Arcambal conducted a remote presentation, sponsored by the Defense Research Institute's LHD Corporate Counsel Committee, entitled "Rescission: Can You Take it Back?". The presentation focused on addressing the current difficulty with obtaining information during the regular contestability investigation, and situations where policies may be rescinded after the expiration of the two-year contestability period.

PRACTICE AREAS

- Life, Annuities & Disability Products Litigation
- ERISA & Group Litigation
- Commercial, Financial & Banking Litigation
- Healthcare (Litigation)
- Appeals

EDUCATION

- J.D., University of Wisconsin Law School
- B.A., Economics and English, Smith College

BAR ADMISSIONS

- New York State Bar

COURTS

- United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit
- United States District Court for the Northern District of New York
- United States District Court for the Southern District of New York
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York
- United States District Court for the Western District of New York

GREW UP IN

- Hawaii

CONTACT

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