



Desislava K. Docheva

Associate

Fort Lauderdale | 954.768.1610 | ddocheva@bakerdonelson.com

Desislava Docheva is a skilled litigation lawyer focusing on complex litigation in federal and state courts.

Ms. Docheva is a trusted and strategic advocate whose diverse litigation experience in both the U.S. and Canada allows her to navigate high-stakes disputes and complex legal problems to deliver results for her clients. Ms. Docheva has a commercial litigation practice with an emphasis on contractual and business disputes, consumer fraud, and class action and insurance defense.

Desislava is fluent in Bulgarian (her native language) and English.



Case Studies

- Trial Victory for LIHTC Investors - Litigation



Representative Matters

- Successfully defended a national online retail client against multiple Video Privacy Protection Act (VPPA) class actions filed in New York and Florida; cases were dismissed at the motion to dismiss phase before a class could be certified.
- Defending an automotive OEM against a class action brought under the California Invasion of Privacy Act (CIPA) in state court.
- Defending a data privacy action filed by an individual against a national online retailer in California court.
- Acted as trial counsel for a leading communications infrastructure company in a jury trial in the Southern District of Florida, successfully defending breach of easement and punitive damages claims.
- Acted as trial counsel for Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) limited partners in a consolidated bench trial in the Middle District of Florida, successfully enforcing limited partners' removal rights against general partners and defeating the general partners' claims for breach of partnership agreement.
- Defended a consumer class action in Florida against a large car manufacturer, successfully resolving case before class certification after filing a dispositive motion.
- Defended a consumer class action in Florida against a large food distribution company, defeating suit after filing dispositive motions.
- Defended a consumer class action in Florida against a large pharmacy chain, defeating suit after filing a dispositive motion.
- Acted as trial counsel for a leading chemical and technology company in a successful \$1.3 billion breach of contract and conversion claim against the operator of a jointly owned ethylene manufacturing facility in Canada.
- Acted as trial counsel for a subsidiary of a major oil and gas company successfully defending an alleged wrongful termination of an independent contractor.
- Acted as hearing counsel for a junior oil company in a securities hearing successfully defending insider trading and other allegations.
- Acted as appellate counsel for individual clients defending an appeal of a successful trial judgment and further successfully defending a leave to appeal application to the Supreme Court of Canada.

- Acted as pre-trial counsel for an international construction contractor advancing a multimillion dollar claim arising out of the design and construction of a magnesium oxide plant in Jordan.
- Acted as pre-trial counsel for a major Canadian bank in a mortgage fraud and unjust enrichment matter.
- Acted as summary trial and appellate counsel for an insurance company on a contentious, not settled point of law relating to insurance coverage.
- Acted as counsel on multiple files requiring interpretation of insurance policy coverage, including policies relating to business interruption, professional negligence, title insurance, third-party liability, and environmental pollution liability.
- Assisted in several complex arbitration matters arising out of construction and insurance disputes.
- Obtained a significant order granting summary judgment in favor of a property carrier, finding that the insured's eleventh hour attempt to satisfy Florida's supplemental claims statute by providing a "notice of intent to seek additional proceeds" was insufficient. This ruling prevented the carrier from being exposed to an appraisal where damages could have exceeded \$3 million dollars.
- Defended a plastic surgery medical practice against a class action lawsuit for violation of state privacy law.
- Granted summary judgment in federal court defeating the insured's breach of contract claim on the defense that the insured failed to produce admissible evidence of damages following a fire loss involving commercial property. The federal court denied the insured's motion for summary judgment, finding that the carrier was entitled to have its contractual fraud counterclaim heard by a jury, despite the fact that the alleged fraudulent conduct was committed, at least in part, by the insured's contractor-agent.



Professional Honors & Activities

- Member – [Baker Donelson's Food and Beverage Incident Response Team](#)



Publications

- "Ultra/Highly Processed Foods: What You Need to Know about Recent HHS Initiatives" (January 2026)
- "How Food and Beverage Manufacturers Can Minimize their Exposure to the Wave of Citric Acid Based Lawsuits " (June 2025)



Education

- University of Miami School of Law, J.D., 2018, cum laude
 - Completed joint J.D./LL.M. in International Arbitration, July 2018
- University of Calgary, J.D., 2009
- University of Toronto, M.A. in Russian and East European Studies, 2006
- Sofia University Kliment Ohridski, B.A./M.A., 2000



Admissions

- Florida, 2018
- Alberta, Canada, 2010
- U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida
- U.S. Court of Appeals Eleventh Circuit