MELAND | BUDWICK

Daniel N. Gonzalez



Partner

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Practice Areas:

- Bankruptcy and Restructuring
- Commercial Litigation
- Creditors' Rights
- Real Estate
- Receiverships and Assignments

Dan is a creative lawyer who thinks outside the box and gets things done."

– Chambers USA

Daniel N. Gonzalez, a partner with Meland Budwick, P.A., concentrates his practice on complex litigation, insolvency matters, financial restructuring and reorganization, creditors' rights, bankruptcy related litigation, bankruptcy trustee/fiduciary representation, and asset transactions in liquidation proceedings (representing both purchasers and sellers). In addition, Dan acts as outside general counsel to companies and high net worth individuals with respect to their litigation and transactional matters.

Since 2016, Dan has been recognized in Chambers USA. Dan is commended for his pragmatic approach and analytical abilities. Chambers USA sources describe Dan as "bright, finds solutions and can navigate through complicated cases." As noted in

Chambers USA, Dan enjoys a growing reputation for his practice in commercial restructuring, bankruptcy litigation, creditors' rights, and distressed M&A.

EDUCATION

- University of Florida College of Law, J.D., 2002
- Boston College, B.A., 1999

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Florida
- Southern District of Florida
- Middle District of Florida

MEMBERSHIPS

- Member of the Board, University of Florida Law Center Association Board of Trustees
- Member, Eleventh Judicial Circuit Grievance Committee "I"
- President, Bankruptcy Bar Association for the Southern District of Florida, 2012-2013
- Miami Chair, Bankruptcy Bar Association for the Southern District of Florida, Pro Bono Committee, 2008-2010
- Member, Cuban American Bar Association
- Co-Chair, University of Miami Bankruptcy Skills Workshop
- Member, Miami-Dade Bar Association
- Member, Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA)

LANGUAGES

- Spanish

AWARDS & RANKINGS

- Ranked, *Chambers and Partners USA*, Bankruptcy/Restructuring, 2015-2026
- Ranked, *Chambers and Partners USA*, Bankruptcy Litigation, 2022-2026
- Lawdragon, 500 Leading Global Bankruptcy & Restructuring Lawyers, 2025-2026

- The Best Lawyers in America, 2022-2027
- Florida Super Lawyers, 2016-2026
- South Florida Legal Guide
- South Florida Legal Elite
- Daily Business Review, "40 Under 40" Rising Stars, 2014
- Recipient of the 2008 Put Something Back Pro Bono Service Award for bankruptcy

PUBLICATIONS

- Co-author: "*The New Bankruptcy Act's impact on Asset Protection Planning*," National Business Institute, Inc., 2005
- Co-author and presenter: "*Enforcing Creditors' Rights After the New Bankruptcy Law in Florida*," Lorman Education Services, Inc., 2006

CLERKSHIPS/INTERNSHIPS

- Clerk for the Honorable Gisela Cardonne-Ely, 11th Judicial Circuit in and for Miami-Dade County, Florida, 2000
- Summer Honors Program, Securities and Exchange Commission (Enforcement Division), 2001

PUBLIC SPEAKING

- Moderator – View from the Bench Panel, 2013 University of Miami Bankruptcy Skills Workshop
- Moderator – View from the Bench Panel, 2013 Dade County Bar Association/Put Something Back Bankruptcy Seminar

Representative Matters

Bankruptcy

Represented first position secured creditor Cirrus Real Estate Funding, LLC, in the Chapter 11 bankruptcy case of BH Downtown Miami, LLC, pending in Miami. Advised Cirrus on all Chapter 11 matters in this case, including defending Cirrus in a heavily

contested adversary proceeding brought against it by BH Downtown, as well as BH Downtown Miami's sale efforts and representing Cirrus in its credit bidding acquisition (sale closed in Q1 2026). The land owned by BH Downtown Miami is one of the few last developable parcels of waterfront property in downtown Miami (the land is valued at over $100m).

Represented Integra Realty, LLC, as the $20.5m stalking horse bidder in the Heron Pond Condominium Association receivership case. In this role, Dan and the firm advised Integra in all aspects of the transaction, including negotiating the stalking horse agreement, representing Integra in a contested sale hearing (Integra prevailed), and closing on the transaction.

Represented Chapter 7 bankruptcy trustee of All Star Mortgage Financial. The representation included selling real property pursuant to Section 363 of the Bankruptcy Code, and prosecuting claims against third parties, including claims for the avoidance of transfers, professional malpractice, fraud and breach of fiduciary duty.

Represent numerous Chapter 7 bankruptcy trustees in corporate and individual Ch. 7 cases. Routinely advise trustees in the connection with the sale of estate assets pursuant to Section 363, prosecution of avoidance claims and prosecution of Section 727 actions.

Represented a Chapter 7 bankruptcy trustee of a liquor store. This case required operating the business for a limited period of time while in Chapter 7, and the 363 sale of the liquor license owned by the debtor.

Represented a leading international fruit company in the Chapter 7 bankruptcy case of an individual debtor.

Represented a secured creditor in a Chapter 11 bankruptcy case filed in the Southern District of Florida concerning a tract of land located in Brooklyn, New York. We filed and prosecuted a motion to dismiss the Chapter 11 case, which ultimately led to the debtor dismissing its Chapter 11 case.

Represented the Chapter 7 bankruptcy trustee in the Chapter 7 bankruptcy filing of a high profile Miami developer. After the filing of a complex lawsuit and the recordation of a lis pendens against numerous properties located in Miami-Dade

and Broward counties, the Debtor waived his right to a Chapter 7 discharge and settled certain transfers with the bankruptcy estate for $1.1 million.

Represented a Chinese steel conglomerate in the bankruptcy case of the Plantation Fashion Mall. Successfully secured client's position as the largest creditor in the case, and obtained a settlement with the bankruptcy trustee ensuring it received over 90% of the funds distributed by the bankruptcy trustee. The amount at issue was in excess of $100 million.

Bankruptcy, Restructuring

In re Sundale and Kendall Hotel & Suites – Represented the debtors, who owned a large tract of real estate with an operating hotel, in their Chapter 11 proceedings. The debtors confirmed a Chapter 11 plan of reorganization.

Bankruptcy and Restructuring, Commercial Litigation, Financial Fraud

Representation of the Chapter 7 Trustee and Michael Budwick served as the receiver appointed by the United States District Court in a $19 million Ponzi scheme case perpetrated by Thomas Abrams. Brought a variety of litigation claims and reached a multi-million dollar settlement of an aiding and abetting claim against Fidelity Federal Bank & Trust, N.A.

Commercial Litigation

Represented the assignee, pursuant to Chapter 727 of the Florida Statutes, of a company in the business of distributing recording devices throughout Central and South America.

Represented the principal of a large South Florida based company accused of breach of fiduciary duty and negligence by the company's creditors. Vision Development Group, LLC – represented the developer of a large condominium conversion project and its principal member in connection with litigation and a workout with the senior secured lender, Corus Bank, and various mezzanine lenders.

Represented a leading real estate brokerage firm in its claims for malpractice, fraud, and breach of fiduciary duty against separate accounting firms and individual

accountants. The matter resolved presuit for a confidential amount paid to our client.

Commercial Litigation and Restructuring

Represented group of guarantors of a $19.6 million credit facility collateralized by real estate, and negotiated a settlement that included a discount payment to release the guarantors and a release of the lender's mortgage lien on the real estate at issue.

Real Estate

Represented developers in Sarasota, Florida in the sale of 100+ developed lots in a planned development community.

Represented a family-run company in its acquisition of various parcels of land on the Miami River.

Real Estate, Commercial Litigation, Bankruptcy and Restructuring

Represented Hyperion Partners in connection with acquisition of loan encumbering the Onyx Condominium project, related litigation and bankruptcy to gain control of project, modification of condominium documents and end sale of balance of acquired condominium units.

Trial Practice

Represented Kenneth A. Welt, as the Chapter 7 bankruptcy trustee for the estate of Ali Reza Zargaran in a trial in the District Court for the Southern District of Florida. Successfully avoided the transfer of Texas property to and deemed the property in Texas an asset of the Chapter 7 bankruptcy estate.

Testimonials

"Daniel's work and thoroughness is always impressive."

– Chambers USA 2025

"Daniel is versatile, responsive and always on-point with practical solutions."

– Chambers USA 2025

"Daniel is a strong leader and a driving force at the firm. His depth of knowledge and desire to deliver for his clients is obvious and appreciated."

– Chambers USA 2024

"He's an effective and thoughtful lawyer."

– Chambers USA 2023

"Daniel is a strong and confident litigator that gets results."

– Chambers USA 2023

"A practical bankruptcy litigator who focuses on getting the straightest path to a good result."

– Chambers USA 2022

"He's an effective, thoughtful lawyer who works hard and inspires the confidence of his clients."

– Chambers USA 2022

"He is very bright, finds solutions and can navigate through complicated cases."

– Chambers USA 2021

“Daniel is practical, results-oriented and collaborative.”

– Chambers USA 2021

News

- 13 Meland Budwick Attorneys Listed in the 2027 Edition of The Best Lawyers in America® (Aug. 20, 2026)
- Daniel N. Gonzalez, Mark Meland and Bella Sandman represented Integra Investments in its $20.5 million acquisition of Heron Pond (Aug. 18, 2026)
- Six Meland Budwick Attorneys Named 2026 Florida Super Lawyers (Jul. 01, 2026)
- Meland Budwick, P.A. Recognized in the 2026 Edition of Chambers USA (Jun. 04, 2026)
- Daniel N. Gonzalez Elected to University of Florida Law Center Association Board of Trustees (Apr. 27, 2026)

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