



ASHLEY VILLAVERDE HALVORSON

PARTNER

Arizona

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Areas of Practice:

Bad Faith & Extra-Contractual Liability
Insurance Coverage & Third-Party Liability
Professional Liability
Wrongful Death & Personal Injury Defense

Industries Served:

Insurance
Professional Service Providers
Recreation & Amusement
Retail & Hospitality

Ashley Villaverde Halvorson is an accomplished bar leader and trial lawyer who has defended insurance bad faith & professional negligence cases to verdict, and who frequently defends such cases to favorable settlements and dismissals. Ashley represents insurance companies, corporations/business owners (such as bars, restaurants, retailers, hotels, contractors/trades, transportation companies, and youth organizations), insurance adjusters, insurance agents, and professionals. She is sought after for her experience and judgment in resolving complex insurance disputes, such as those involving insurance coverage, first party property claims, third party liability claims, UM/UIM claims, *Damron/Morris* Agreements, errors & omissions claims, and claims of breach of duty of good faith and fair dealing. Ashley has also achieved favorable settlement results and dismissals in many cases involving multi-million dollar contractual, catastrophic personal injury, and wrongful-death damages claims. Ashley takes pride in her high standards of client-centered service, collaborating with clients to understand their business needs, and taking a thoughtful and targeted approach toward executing goals and managing litigation costs. She achieves this through prompt and accurate case evaluations, dispositive motion practice, and resolution-focused case strategies.

Ashley is dedicated to promoting diversity and inclusion in the legal profession, serves on the firm's Diversity Committee, Recruiting Committee, and formerly chaired its Diversity Legal Writing Program. Since 2010, Ashley has been an active member of Los Abogados, Arizona's Hispanic Bar Association, previously serving as President (2018), and on several committees focused on mentorship and fundraising for scholarships for Latino law students. Ashley has also been involved in other groups centered on the advancement of women in the legal profession, including the Latina Mentoring Project, the Hispanic National Bar Association Latina Commission, Ladder Down, and the Arizona Women Lawyer's Association.

REPRESENTATIVE CASES

- Obtained successful jury verdict defending an insurance agent in a professional negligence action. After a three-week trial, the bakery claimed \$70 million in damages (incl. those alleged against carrier). The jury awarded the bakery only \$2,616.80 on the agent negligence claim. [Truck Insurance v. La Patisserie, et al.](#) (Ariz. 2019).
- Prevailed on a motion for summary judgment, limiting damages from a \$3.3 million stipulated judgment to the \$100,000 auto policy limit. [Redmond v. Mid-Century Insurance \(Farmers\), et al.](#) (2015)
- Obtained defense verdict in bad faith and breach of contract action, which was listed as "Arizona Significant Defense Verdict of 2012" in Arizona Attorney Magazine, June 2013. [Barbara Sloan v. Farmers Insurance Company of Arizona, Farmers Insurance Exchange, and Farmers Group, Inc.](#) (2012)
- Prevailed on summary judgment on issue of when claim for legal malpractice accrued. *Best Choice Fund v. Low & Childers and USA Risk Group*, 228 Ariz. 502, 269 P.3d 678 (App. 2011)

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

- Hispanic National Bar Association, Latina Commission, 2020-2021
- Los Abogados, Hispanic Bar Association, Chair of Latina Committee 2020; Past President 2019, President 2018, Vice President 2017, 2021 Secretary 2015-2016, Member, 2013-Present
- Los Abogados Foundation, Board of Directors
- Hispanic National Bar Association, Deputy Regional President, Region XIV
- The Latina Mentoring Project
- State Bar of Arizona, Committee on Minorities and Women in the Law, 2012-2015
- Arizona Collaborative Bar, Collaboration of Arizona's diverse bar associations
- Arizona Women Lawyers Association

- Maricopa County Bar Association
- Association of Defense Trial Attorneys
- Arizona Association of Defense Counsel
- Defense Research Institute
- Arizona Superior Court, Maricopa County, Judge Pro Tem

PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION & AWARDS

- [Diversity and Inclusion Leadership Award](#), State Bar of Arizona, December 2020
- [Best Lawyers in America®](#), Personal Injury Litigation – Defendants, 2021-2022
- AV Preeminent Rating by *Martindale-Hubbell*
- [Attorney at Law Magazine](#): Attorney of the Month, October 2018
- Emerging Leader Award, *Los Abogados*, 2017
- *AzBusiness Magazine* Most Influential Women, 2017
- Top Lawyers Under 40 Award, *Hispanic National Bar Association*, 2017
- *Southwest Super Lawyers Rising Stars*, 2013-2021

PRESENTATIONS & PUBLICATIONS

- [“Los Abogados Latina Committee: Latinas on the Rise,”](#) *Attorney at Law Magazine*, June 2019
- [“Portrait of Today’s Woman: Mother, Lawyer, Leader,”](#) *Attorney at Law Magazine: Attorney of the Month*, October 2018
- “Bad Faith Nightmares: Recent Trends & Themes in Bad Faith and Extra-Contractual Insurance Litigation,” *Hispanic National Bar Association Annual Convention*, September 2017
- “How To Avoid The Hot Seat: Good Claims Handling In Arizona,” Presenter, JSH Annual Seminar: It’s All Fun and Games Until Someone Gets Hurt, November 2014
- “Deposing the Expert Witness in a Personal Injury Case,” Co-Presenter, State Bar of Arizona, September, 2014
- “Reservation of Rights,” Arizona DRI Compendium, Co-Author, 2013
- “Early Claims Investigation and Evaluation,” Presenter, JSH Seminar, October 2013
- “Overview of Insurance Defense – Premises, Products and Auto,” Co-Presenter, Insurance Defense Institute, July 2013
- “Overview of Insurance Defense: Coverage and Bad Faith Practice,” Co-Presenter, Insurance Defense Institute, July 2013
- “Ethics for Insurance Defense Counsel and Effective Negotiation and Settlement Techniques,” Co-Presenter, Insurance Defense Institute, July 2013
- “Practical Considerations of Everyday Case Handling,” Co-Presenter, Insurance Defense Institute, July 2013

EDUCATION

Arizona State University, Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law, J.D., 2009
Arizona State University, B.A., Political Science, *cum laude*, 2005

BAR ADMISSIONS

Arizona, 2009
U.S. District Court, District of Arizona, 2010