BERGER SINGERMAN
FLORIDA'S BUSINESS LAW FIRM

MARLENE M. DUARTE

Partner

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Marlene Duarte is a partner in Berger Singerman's Miami office and a key member of the Business, Finance & Tax Team. Marlene focuses on the needs of each client and aims to create and maximize value wherever needed. She is a true partner to each of her clients and provides advice through an entrepreneurial lens. She also serves on the Forum Board of the Florida Venture Forum, one of the state's leading organizations supporting high-growth companies.

Marlene handles a variety of transactional matters and specializes in corporate and securities law, including mergers and acquisitions, recapitalizations, joint ventures, and corporate carveouts. She has led and aided in acquisitions across the globe that span from $100,000 to $1 billion throughout a variety of industries, including healthcare, beauty, insurance, transportation, waste and recycling, security, and manufacturing. Marlene integrates herself into a client's team as needed and often serves as a trusted advisor or outside general counsel. In these roles, Marlene focuses on creating the best solutions and connections for each client and regularly handles a variety of corporate commercial matters.

Education

J.D., *cum laude*, University of Miami School of Law
B.A. in Political Science, *cum laude*, Florida International University
B.A. in English, *cum laude*, Florida International University

Bar Admissions

Florida

Practice Teams

Business, Finance & Tax

Practice Areas

Corporate
Healthcare
Mergers & Acquisitions
Private Equity & Venture Capital

Representative Matters

- Represented numerous business owners in their sales to private equity or strategic acquirers.
- Represented numerous strategic acquirers for add-on acquisitions, joint ventures, and mergers.
- Represented various private equity firms in their acquisitions of platform entities for different funds.
- Represented numerous private equity platform entities and strategic acquirers for add-on acquisitions, joint ventures, and mergers.
- Represented various private equity firms in the sales of their platform entities.

Awards & Honors

- *Legal 500's "US Elite: Miami and Florida"*
  - Corporate and M&A, 2026
- *The Best Lawyers in America®,* "Ones to Watch" 2023-2027

Community Activities / Associations

- Board Member, Florida Venture Forum
- Chair, FIU The Honors College Dean's Advisory Board
- NextGen Member, Chapman Partnership
- Leadership Miami Class 44 Graduate
- Eleventh Judicial Circuit Criminal Mental Health Project, (June 2010- 2011)

In the News

Berger Singerman Attorneys Recognized in the 33rd Edition of Best Lawyers In America
August 20, 2026

Berger Singerman Attorneys Recognized in Legal 500’s 2026 “US Elite: Miami and Florida” Rankings
April 15, 2026

Daily Business Journal Features Marlene Duarte in, "Q&A: Best Mentor Finalist: Marlene Duarte, Berger Singerman"
March 27, 2025

Marlene Duarte Recognized Among Florida’s Best Mentors by the Daily Business Review's 2025 Florida Legal Awards.
January 30, 2025

Law360 Quotes Marlene Duarte in, "Attorneys Mourn Slow Death Of Deal 'Tombstones'"
October 31, 2024

Fifty-Six Berger Singerman Attorneys Recognized in the 2025 Edition of Best Lawyers In America
August 15, 2024

Berger Singerman Announces 2023 Elevations
January 3, 2023

Forty-Three Berger Singerman Attorneys Recognized in the 2023 Edition of Best Lawyers In America
August 18, 2022

M&A Advisor Recognizes Berger Singerman LLP for its Work on the Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Case of Unipharma
June 15, 2022

Publications

Marlene Duarte and AJ Fernandez Join Florida Venture Forum's Forum Board
November 24, 2025

Daily Business Review "Preparing Your Company for a Liquidity Event: Who Should Be on Your Team?"
October 24, 2022

Events & Speaking Engagements

Marlene Duarte, Speaker, "FIU Honors College Careers in Law," Florida International University
October 27, 2025

Prior Affiliations

McDermott Will & Emery LLP