



## Roberto Vela, Esq.

Roberto Vela focuses primarily on tort litigation, insurance disputes, and cost recovery negotiations arising out of manufacturing defects. With a keen sense of strategy and an uncompromising commitment to professionalism, Roberto advocates for individual and business policyholders at every stage of the claims process, from the determination of carrier defense and indemnity obligations to first- and third-party claim litigation implicating personal, commercial, and specialty lines policies.

As trusted advisor, Roberto helps his clients to maximize coverage, minimize risk, and manage policies as a financial asset. Finally, he regularly draws upon his experience in complex litigation matters to advocate for clients in the areas of criminal defense and administrative law.

Before establishing his own practice Roberto was an associate in the Baltimore office of an AmLaw 200 firm, where he represented Fortune 500 companies in products liability actions alleging exposure to hazardous substances, claims of vicarious liability for environmental contamination, and other complex litigation matters. Thereafter Roberto served as Chief Operating Officer of a cancer therapeutics company.

Roberto was a Leadership Scholar at the University of Maryland School of Law, where he received a full tuition scholarship. While in law school Roberto was a member of the school's nationally-ranked Trial Team, Executive Editor of the Maryland Journal of International Law, President of the Latino/a Law Students Association, Co-Founder of the Leadership Scholars Legacy Project and member of the LGBT Law Student Alliance.

In addition, Roberto received the University of Maryland's Martin Luther King, Jr. Diversity Recognition Award for his service in the Katrina-Gideon Project, assisting the New Orleans Office of the Public Defender to reconstitute its case load in the chaotic aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Finally, Roberto was an Asper Fellow to the Honorable William M. Nickerson, Senior Judge of the United States District Court for the District of Maryland.

### Court/Bar Admissions

- Maryland
- United States District Court for the District of Maryland

### Education

- The University of Maryland School of Law, J.D. 2009
- Johns Hopkins University, B.A. 2005, with Honors
- Peabody Conservatory of Music, B.Mus. 2005, with Honors

### Languages

- Spanish (Native Fluency)

### Patents

- United States Patent D673744, Digitally-Operated Lens Surface Cleaning Apparatus, Co-Inventor

### Selected Publications

- ***Cancer Therapy: Time for a New Direction***, video presentation, May 28, 2012. Co-produced with G. Vela. Available at <http://bit.ly/CTNDVid> (case-sensitive).
- ***Legal Implications of New Cancer Causation Theories***, Law 360, Aug. 11, 2011. First author; co-authored with F. Ford Loker. Available at <http://bit.ly/toftcausation>.
- ***Reviving Time-Barred Actions via Legislation***, Law 360, Mar. 15, 2011. Co-authored with R. Silver and M.L. Haslup. Available at <http://bit.ly/limstat>.
- ***Weighing Unilateral Termination of a Deposition***, Law 360, Oct. 21, 2010. Co-authored with M.T. Wagman. Available at <http://bit.ly/stopdepo>.