



Michael I. Verde

Senior Counsel and General Counsel Emeritus

Insurance and Risk Management

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Michael Verde litigates and advises on matters related to insurance, risk management and fraud, with particular experience in the financial and hotel industries. He has investigated and litigated matters arising in Europe, Asia, Africa, South America and the Middle East, as well as throughout the United States. Michael has tried and appealed cases in both state and federal courts, as well as in arbitrations before the American Arbitration Association and the International Court of Arbitration of the International Chamber of Commerce.

Extensive experience in insurance litigation

Michael represents both insurers and policyholders in large, complex coverage and defense litigation involving fidelity losses, professional liability, directors' and officers' liability, business interruption claims, mass tort, catastrophic property loss, airline liability and technology claims. He advises clients on risk management and reviews their insurance policies to ensure that their businesses are receiving the right coverage for the risks they are likely to face. Michael also has litigated insurance industry disputes, including regulatory enforcement actions, reinsurance claims, broker negligence and program manager disputes.

Unique fraud investigation experience

He also handles complex fraud claims for both domestic and foreign clients, initiating criminal prosecutions in addition to civil recoveries. Before his legal career, Michael served as a sergeant in the New York City Police Department. He also took temporary leave from the firm to head the New York office of a London private investigation company. Michael relies on this unique experience to lead investigations and provide advice for clients that have been victimized by fraud, especially frauds originating in foreign jurisdictions.

Michael has particular experience representing domestic and international hotel owners in disputes with management and franchise companies regarding management fraud, negligence and breach of contract pertaining to the construction and operation of hotels.

Practices

- Artificial Intelligence
- International
- International Arbitration
- Litigation
- White Collar and Internal Investigations

Industries

- Hospitality
- Insurance and Risk Management
- Private Client Services

Education

- JD, New York Law School, *magna cum laude*
- BA, Columbia University, *cum laude*

Bar Admissions

- New York

Court Admissions

- US Court of Appeals, First Circuit
- US Court of Appeals, Second Circuit
- US District Court, Eastern District of New York
- US District Court, Southern District of New York
- US District Court, Eastern District of Michigan

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He also has worked with many banks, hedge funds, investment funds and brokerages in tailoring their insurance policies to the unique risks they face, and investigating and litigating internal and external incidents of fraud.

Recognitions

Recognized or listed in the following:

- Katten John P. Sieger Excellence in Mentoring Award
 - 2025

News

- Katten Names Three Mentoring Awards Recipients (November 24, 2025)
- Michael Verde Quoted on International Arbitration Challenges (March 18, 2016)
- Partner Michael Verde Profiled in Law360 Q&A (April 8, 2013)
- Partner Michael Verde Interviewed in *IR Magazine* Corporate Governance Article (December 28, 2011)
- Partner Michael Verde Authors Article on CCOs for Corporate Compliance Insights (August 5, 2010)

Publications

- Author | 13 Characteristics of a Great Chief Compliance Officer | *Corporate Compliance Insights* (August 1, 2010)

Presentations and Events

- A Panel Discussion on Hospitality and Leisure Real Estate Opportunities for Family Offices (June 28, 2016) | *Presenter*
- Serviced Apartment Summit Americas (April 13–14, 2016) | *Presenter* | *Breakout: How to Deal With a Disaster Scenario*
- The Practical, Legal and Ethical Considerations of Internal Investigations (November 3, 2015) | *Presenter*
- Social Engineering Fraud: How Is the Crime Market Dealing With This New Phenomenon? (September 21, 2015) | *Panelist*
- International Hospitality Industry Investment Conference (May 31–June 2, 2015) | *Panelist* | *Hotel Management Agreements*

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- Financial Services Litigation Symposium (October 16, 2014) | *Presenter*
- 36th Annual NYU International Hospitality Industry Investment Conference (June 1–3, 2014) | *Panelist* | *Hotel Management Agreements: Aligning Interests Post Recession*
- Hedge Funds Under Siege (June 12, 2013) | *Panelist*
- 119th Annual Conference & Exposition (September 30, 2012) | *Panelist* | *Cyber Intelligence for Law Enforcement and Corporate Security*
- 2011 NIRI Annual Conference (June 12–15, 2011) | *Panelist* | *Taking the Lead on Ethics*
- Reassessing Insurance Strategies in a New Era of Risk and Uncertainty (February 24, 2010) | *Panelist*
- Reassessing Insurance Strategies in a New Era of Risk & Uncertainty (November 10, 2009) | *Speaker*