



Muhammad U. Faridi

Partner

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Muhammad U. Faridi is a Partner in the Firm's Litigation department. His practice focuses on complex commercial litigation, including disputes related to structured finance transactions, breach of fiduciary duty, international joint ventures, and fraud. He has handled a wide variety of litigation matters at various stages—including jury and bench trials and appeals—for large financial institutions (such as financial guarantors and hedge funds), international manufacturing conglomerates, large pharmaceutical companies, and not-for-profit organizations. He has also advised clients with interests in distressed businesses, and his clients have recouped billions of dollars through litigation and out-of-court settlements.

Mr. Faridi has been recognized by several professional associations and organizations. He was named a “2018 Rising Star” by the *New York Law Journal*, which “recognizes the region’s most promising lawyers who are no older than 40.” He has been named to *Benchmark Litigation*’s “40 & Under Hotlist” of practitioners for multiple years, including as recently as 2019. The hot list highlights professionals who “have been deemed most promising emerging talent in their respective litigation communities in the US and Canadian litigation community by peers and clients.” He was the recipient of the New York State Bar Association’s 2014 Outstanding Young Lawyer Award, highlighting his recognition by the Young Lawyers Section of the association for having rendered outstanding service to both the community and legal profession. Based upon Mr. Faridi’s work on death-penalty matters and his leadership in chairing the New York City Bar Association’s Capital Punishment Committee, the Firm was awarded the 2017 Norman Redlich Pro Bono Award. Mr. Faridi has also received The Legal Aid Society’s Pro Bono Publico Award for multiple years, MFY Legal Services, Inc.’s Partner in Justice Award, and the Brooklyn Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Project’s TD Bank Champion of Justice Award. Mr. Faridi was also recognized as the 2017 Law Day Honoree at John Jay College of Criminal Justice “for his outstanding commitment to the legal community.”

Mr. Faridi has also written extensively on commercial litigation in New York. He is the co-editor of *Commercial Division Practice Guide* (Bloomberg), a treatise that seeks to provide guidance on the process of litigation in the Commercial Division of the New York State Supreme Court, a court established to enhance the quality of judicial adjudication and to improve efficiency in the case management of commercial disputes in New York. Mr. Faridi is also a contributor to the American Bar Association Section of Business Law’s annual review of business courts in the United States. Further, Mr. Faridi is a founding contributor to the Firm’s blog, www.NYCommercialDivisionBlog.com, covering developments related to practice and case law in the Commercial Division and commercial cases in New York appellate courts.

Mr. Faridi is an Adjunct Professor of Law at Fordham University School of Law where he teaches commercial litigation.

Patterson Belknap

Prior to joining Patterson Belknap, Mr. Faridi served as a law clerk to Judge Jack B. Weinstein, Senior U.S. District Judge in the Eastern District of New York.

Representative Matters

Complex Commercial Litigation

Ongoing representation of a financial institution in a \$2 billion breach-of-contract and fraud action against another large financial institution.

Representation of a financial institution in a breach-of-contract and fraud action resulting in a \$995 million settlement for our client.

Representation of a financial institution in a breach-of-contract action resulting in a \$400 million settlement for our client.

Representation of a financial institution in a pre-suit settlement of claims where our client recouped \$1.1 billion as well as loss-sharing for future losses to our client.

Representation of a financial institution in a breach-of-contract and fraud action resulting in a large settlement for our client.

Representation of an international investment conglomerate and holding company in a complex financial fraud action relating to a secured lending facility.

Representation of a hedge fund in enforcement of its right to step-up in the interest rate owed on asset-back securities as a result of defaults by the sponsor in transaction documents.

Manufacturing Conglomerates

Ongoing representation of a large manufacturer of auto parts in an action alleging wrongful termination of a contract and fraud.

Representation of an international joint venture in three lawsuits related to its manufacturing rights resulting in a multi-million dollar settlement that also recognized our client's rights.

Representation of a large manufacturer of auto parts in an arbitration proceeding alleging inadequate controls.

White Collar Defense

Ongoing representation of a large institution in a civil forfeiture action brought by the U.S. Government and several lawsuits brought under the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act and the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act.

Patent Litigation

Representation of a large pharmaceutical company in a patent infringement action involving patents on a consumer product.

Business Reorganization and Creditors' Rights

Representation of official committee of unsecured creditors in a large Chapter 11 case involving a multi-state real estate developer with liabilities over a billion dollars.

Representation of bondholders of a large bank in Chapter 7 liquidation.

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Representation of a large Brazilian bank in a Chapter 15 proceeding stemming from a judicial recovery proceeding in Brazil.

Pro Bono

Representation of a Muslim organization seeking to establish a house of worship in New Jersey; a death-row inmate in Missouri in post-conviction collateral review proceedings; the National Governors Association, Council of State Governments, and National Conference of State Legislatures as *amici* in a case involving the transfer of a prisoner facing the death penalty from state to federal custody; the American Bar Association as *amici* in a case involving the applicability of the Alien Tort Statute for violations of international law occurring outside of the United States; children with disabilities in a class action against the City of New Orleans; runaway and homeless youth in a class action against the City of New York; an elderly couple in an action against a roofing company; a mentally disabled person in housing court eviction proceedings; an immigrant family in a dispute with landlord over repairs; and serving as a guardian *ad litem* for a mentally disabled person in housing court and related proceedings, among other matters.

Education

- City University of New York School of Law (J.D., 2007)
 - Editor, *New York City Law Review*
 - First place, ABA Labor & Employment Section Trial Advocacy Competition
 - Recipient, NY State Bar Association Law Student Legal Ethics Award
- John Jay College of Criminal Justice (B.A., *summa cum laude*, 2004)

Admissions

- U.S. Supreme Court
- U.S. District Court, Southern and Eastern Districts of New York
- U.S. District Court, District of New Jersey
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and Ninth Circuit
- New York
- New Jersey

Languages

- Urdu
- Punjabi
- Hindi

Professional Activities

New York City Bar Association, Executive Committee (Vice President, 2019-present; Chair, 2018-2019; member 2015-present); New York City Bar Association, Committee on Capital Punishment (Chair, 2010-2013; member 2005-present); New York City Bar Association, Task Force on Mass Incarceration (2015-present); Muslim Bar Association of New York (Board of Directors, 2009-2010; member 2008-present); Federal Bar Council Inn of Court (2010-present); John Jay College Foundation Board of Trustees (2017-present).

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS:

"Cost-Effective and Time-Effective Commercial Litigation in New York's Commercial Division," Bloomberg BNA Webinar (March 26, 2018)

Publications

- Co-author, "Declaratory Judgments Do Not Always Protect NY Debtors," *Law360* (January 22, 2019)
- Co-author, "Unfair Competition and Trade Secrets Damages Limited to Plaintiff's Losses," *New York Law Journal* (June 26, 2018)
- Co-author, "Applying The Business Judgment Rule To Director Pay Claims," *Law360* (April 2018)
- Co-author, "First, Second Departments Split on What Is Considered 'Documentary Evidence,'" *New York Law Journal* (December 2017)
- Co-author, "When Can LLCs Appoint A Special Litigation Committee?," *Law360* (September 2017)
- Author, "A Lawyer's Struggle to Overcome Barriers and Live by Ideals in the Practice of Law," American Bar Association's *TYL In Focus* (June 2017)
- Co-author, "When Is A Working Capital Agreement A Loan? It Depends," *Law360* (June 2017)
- Co-author, "Court Dismisses Claim Against Chinese Firm Due to Lack of Personal Jurisdiction," *New York Law Journal* (March 2017)
- Co-author, "First Department Allows \$45 Million Fraud Claim To Proceed Against Patriarch Partners," Bloomberg BNA's *Securities Regulation & Law Report* (March 2017)
- Co-author, "Court Confirms Hedge Funds Did Not Act In Bad Faith, Affirms Large Judgment," *New York Law Journal* (February 2017)
- Co-author, "Long-Arm Jurisdiction In A Post-Daimler Era," *Law360* (January 2017)
- Co-author, *Undoing Time: A Proposal for Compensation for Wrongful Imprisonment of Innocent Individuals*, 34 W. New Eng. L. Rev. 1 (2012)
- Author, *Streamlining Habeas Corpus While Undermining Judicial Review: How 28 U.S.C. 2254(d)(1) Violates the Constitution*, 19 St. Thomas L. Rev. 361 (2007)
- Co-author, *Guantanamo Bay: An Introduction to the Symposium Issue*, 10 N.Y. City L. Rev. (2008)