

THOMPSON  
COE

Maria Del Puerto Fernandez  
Sanchez

Partner

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Maria “Puertin” Fernandez Sanchez is a bilingual, experienced litigator with a demonstrated history of successfully trying both personal injury defense and plaintiff cases. Her practice focuses on commercial motor vehicle, trucking, workplace, construction and oil and gas accidents, as well as construction/design defect and breach of contract cases.

Puertin’s exposure to both defense and plaintiff’s work provides her a unique perspective in analyzing each party’s respective strengths and weaknesses, as well as in determining case value. Her background provides unparalleled insight invaluable to her clients’ defense and allows her to provide aggressive representation.

She prides herself in her professionalism, dedication, and creativity in representing her clients, and she is committed to obtaining the most favorable outcome for them.

## Background

Puertin began her practice working as outside counsel for an oil and gas company managing oil rig and trucking accidents. Subsequently, Puertin served as a Plaintiff’s lawyer representing personal injury clients in cases ranging from premise liability, slip and fall, workplace accidents, elevator malfunctions, and motor vehicle and trucking accidents. She also worked defending and pursuing small construction company contract and defect disputes.

Given her Spanish proficiency and background in oil and gas, Puertin has led the firm in representing international clients carrying out oil and gas operations in the United States and Mexico.

## Representative Experience

Obtained plaintiff trial verdict in Harris County as first chair trial attorney in a motor vehicle accident lawsuit.

Assisted in the defense of a trucking company in an 18-wheeler accident 5-day trial in Harris county and obtained a favorable verdict in a case of clear liability.

Obtained a summary judgment award for oil and gas client in a fatal workplace accident.

Defended construction companies in BBB consumer arbitrations and obtained take nothing decisions in their favor.

Obtained a summary judgment award for contractor client as to the construction defect and DTPA claims in a residential property dispute.

Obtained a summary judgment award for a hotel client as to premise defect claims against it. The motion was affirmed by the Texas First District Court of Appeals, and rehearing was denied by the Texas Supreme Court.

## Awards & Recognition

### BEST LAWYERS: ONES TO WATCH

Listed for Litigation – Construction; Personal Injury – Defendants; Product Liability – Defendants  
2023-2025

### SUPER LAWYERS: RISING STARS

Listed for Personal Injury  
2024

## Related Services

Construction

General Liability/Catastrophic Injury

Products Liability & Mass Torts

## Publications & Speaking Engagements

Know Your Rights Immigration Presentation  
Service Employees International Union, Texas  
2018

## Education, Admissions & Activities

## EDUCATION

Notre Dame Law School

J.D., 2014

Inter-American Sustainable Development Law Moot Court

Texas A&M University

B.A., magna cum laude, 2011

Political Science, Minor Sociology

Georgetown University

Internship, 2008

Capital Semester Program

## BAR ADMISSIONS

Texas

2014

## COURT ADMISSIONS

United States District Court, Southern District of Texas

## PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Houston Young Lawyer's Association

Mentorship Committee co-chair

Mexican American Bar Association

Hispanic Bar Association

Junior League of Houston

Kids in Need of Defense

Volunteer immigration attorney

Catholic Charities

Volunteer immigration attorney

## LANGUAGES

Spanish