

Farah S. Nicol

LITIGATION DEPARTMENT CHAIR | CO-CHAIR OF PRO BONO COMMITTEE

she / her / hers

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Farah Nicol chairs Polsinelli's Litigation Department, a nationally recognized team whose attorneys and practices have been honored by *Chambers USA*, BTI Consulting Group and *Best Law Firms*. With more than 30 years of experience managing mass tort, toxic tort and product liability litigation, she leads complex, high-exposure cases for clients across California and the United States.

Serving as National Coordinating Counsel for major corporations, Farah develops and implements litigation strategies that reduce filings, control costs and achieve consistent, favorable results. Her clients—ranging from Fortune 50 to Fortune 500 companies—value her ability to assess risk early, coordinate multi-jurisdictional litigation and manage large-scale teams to ensure efficient, business-driven outcomes.

Farah represents clients in industries including life sciences, manufacturing, petrochemicals, construction and consumer products, with experience spanning:

- Talc and chemical exposure in personal care, pharmaceutical and workplace settings
- Asbestos litigation involving fiber supply, construction materials and household products
- Pesticide and petrochemical exposure claims
- Product liability and toxic tort disputes nationwide

Known for her collaborative approach and long-standing client relationships, Farah brings a deep understanding of both litigation management and client priorities, helping companies navigate complex disputes while protecting their business interests.

Education

- Southwestern Law School (J.D., 1992)
- Loyola University Chicago (B.A., 1989)

Bar Admissions

- California, 1992

Capabilities

- Litigation
- Products Liability & Toxic & Mass Tort

Court Admissions

- U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit
- U.S. District Court, Central District of California
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of California

Memberships

- State Bar of California
- Los Angeles County Bar Association
- Women's Lawyers Association of Los Angeles
- Defense Research Institute

Recognition

- Named to the Lawyers of Color 2023 Power List
- Named "Litigation Star" by *Benchmark Litigation*, 2021-2026

Matters

- Served as national coordinating counsel and California counsel for a multinational cosmetics company operating in more than 100 countries for claims and lawsuits pertaining to its talc products.
- Serve as national coordinating counsel for a privately held contractor defendant, overseeing hundreds of cases in over thirty states across the country relating to claims of alleged toxic exposures at refineries, power plants, nuclear facilities and other industrial locations spanning the globe.
- Serve as California counsel in national litigation involving products liability and wrongful death claims against a generic pharmaceutical company related to the development of cancers allegedly linked to talc exposures.
- Developed overall strategy for aggressive no settlement defense for ongoing personal injury and property damage claims relating to pesticide exposure for an international agricultural sciences company.
- Lead strategist developing cost-effective strategy for handling claims against national construction material manufacturer alleging liability for ongoing personal injury and wrongful death due to exposure to asbestos.
- Retained as lead counsel to defend an international chemical company against ongoing multi-million dollar claims alleging exposure to asbestos.
- Lead strategist for potential exposure and developed management strategy for claims against an international chemical company involving allegations of benzene exposure in the workplace.
- Assessed risk and determined litigation strategy and direction to best position large international chemical manufacturer in defending ongoing multi-million dollar products liability claims.
- Developed strategy and oversaw team's handling of claims against an international agricultural sciences company involving allegations of benzene exposure in both occupational and bystander settings.
- Analyzed and investigated highly publicized multiple personal injury and property damage claims arising out of allegations against utility company for chromium groundwater contamination.

- Assessed risk and determined litigation strategy and direction to best position national manufacturer of RVs involving a broad spectrum of allegations of products liability in manufacturing.
- Managed pre-litigation assessment and litigation strategy involving claims against household and small appliance manufacturer for defense of nationwide claims alleging products liability.
- Led an extensive litigation cost-containment initiative, including the assessment of litigation cost points, renegotiation of contracts, and implementation of cost-savings protocols and strategies that resulted in exponential savings for clients and was subsequently utilized as a prototype by clients when working on subsequent litigation matters.