

Gala Honoree: Tradition of Excellence Award Recipient



Michael W. Leahy is the Senior Vice President, Deputy General Counsel & Head of Litigation at American International Group, Inc. (AIG). As AIG's global head of litigation, Mike is responsible for AIG's corporate and insurance coverage litigation matters, as well as significant regulatory enforcement and internal investigation matters.

Throughout his tenure at AIG, which began in 2003, Mike has managed an array of historically large and complex investigations and disputes, including those arising out of the departure of AIG's former Chairman and CEO in 2005 and the 2008 financial crisis. Through Mike and his team's efforts, AIG has settled two of the largest securities

fraud actions ever to be brought against a public company and its current and former officers and directors, resolved multiple high-profile inquiries by the SEC, DOJ and other regulators, and negotiated resolutions of many billions of dollars of offensive and defensive disputes through the use of mediation and other ADR initiatives. More recently, Mike has led an effort to integrate AIG's management of its insurance coverage disputes into the legal department, and has been heavily engaged on coverage issues arising out of the COVID-19 pandemic, the opioids addiction epidemic and various natural catastrophes, mass torts and shareholder securities and derivative actions.

Prior to joining AIG, Mike was a litigation associate at Willkie Farr & Gallagher in Manhattan and prior to that, served as a legislative aide to United States Senator, Christopher J. Dodd in Washington, DC. Mike is a graduate of Bates College and the University of Virginia School of Law.

Mike has been a member of the Board of Directors of the Brooklyn Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Project since 2019, and is a prior member of the Board of Directors of New York Lawyers for the Public Interest. Mike was also appointed by New York's Chief Judge to serve on the New York Commercial Division's Advisory Council and is a member of the Advisory Council's ADR Committee.