# New York Law Journal 2021 PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

### **RISING STARS**

### Nicole Fanjul Partner, Latham & Watkins

PRACTICE PROFILE: Nicole Fanjul represents lenders and corporate borrowers in complex financings, with a particular focus on syndicated leveraged finance and direct lending. She has advised on the some of the largest acquisition financings in recent years.



**LEADERSHIP, PRO BONO AND CIVIC WORK**: Nicole serves as co-deputy managing partner of Latham's New York office. She has served as the Local Leader of the New York office's Black Lawyers Affinity Group and as a member of the firm's Women Enriching Business Committee, Associates Committee, and Training & Career Enhancement Committee.

Last year, Nicole served on Latham's Recruiting Committee, navigating unique recruiting challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic and driving the firm's diversity recruitment efforts, which resulted in the most diverse summer associate class in the firm's history, while doubling the number of 2L Diversity Scholarships for the 2021 summer program. She maintains an active pro bono practice, frequently advising on immigration matters and assisting immigrant victims of domestic violence in obtaining the protections and benefits of the Violence Against Women Act.

Nicole also spearheaded Latham's ongoing Anti-Racism and Allyship Discussion Series for all lawyers and staff in the firm's New York office to help foster continued conversation and education around systemic racism and anti-Blackness.

#### **PRIOR EXPERIENCE:**

Partner, Latham & Watkins, January 2019-present; associate, December 2009-December 2018

#### **EDUCATION:**

J.D., Harvard Law School, 2009 B.A., Duke University, 2006

## WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO YOUNG LAWYERS?

Even if you have a projected career path in mind, you never know how circumstances will evolve. Start building a network of professional contacts early and cast a wide net, because it's impossible to predict who may prove to be meaningful to the growth of your career as a mentor, sponsor, potential client or otherwise.