



# Coleman D. Ridley, Jr.

## Mediator

Coleman Ridley is a mediator with a wealth of experience as a litigator and public policy professional. Mr. Ridley's two decades of advocating for a diverse range of clients across sectors and industries have honed his ability to resolve disputes without damaging relationships. Additionally, his community service and leadership development further highlight his expertise in navigating contentious situations and fostering positive outcomes.



504-289-3121



[cr Ridley@theridleygroup.org](mailto:cr Ridley@theridleygroup.org)



<https://www.perrydampf.com/neutrals/coleman-ridley>

## Concentrations

Commercial Disputes

Business Litigation

Insurance

Tax Law

Administrative Law

Government Municipality Law

Class Action

## Education

JD, Tulane Law School, New Orleans,  
LA Juris Doctor, cum laude, 1998

BA, College of William and Mary,  
Williamsburg, VA, 1995

## Recognitions

Louisiana Super Lawyer

Graduate, New Orleans Regional  
Leadership Institute

Graduate, Leadership Louisiana

## Biography

Coleman D. Ridley, Jr., is a seasoned and experienced litigator and governmental relations and public policy professional, with a long history of finding innovative solutions to complex problems. He draws on more than two decades as an advocate representing a broad portfolio of clients across various sectors and industries in resolving disputes without destroying relationships.

Coleman is Senior Advisor, Issues Management with Beuerman Miller Fitzgerald, the oldest strategic communications firm in the southern United States. He started his career as a law clerk to the Honorable Sylvia R. Cooks (Ret.), Louisiana Third Circuit Court of Appeals, before serving as an associate attorney and then partner at Jones Walker, LLP, where he was a member of the firm's Business and Commercial Litigation Practice Group. While at Jones Walker, he represented national corporations and local/regional companies in tax litigation, as well as general business cases, including antitrust, construction, products liability, telecommunications, and intellectual property.

From 2013 through 2022, Coleman served as managing director of the Business Council of New Orleans and the River Region. The Business Council is a nonprofit, nonpartisan public policy research and advocacy organization dedicated to improving economic conditions, living standards, and the quality of life for all residents of the Greater New Orleans region. The Business Council's membership is comprised exclusively of presidents and CEOs of companies with a significant interest in the Greater New Orleans region. Coleman, in his capacity as managing director, collaborated with government, civic, and other business organizations, and lobbyists to tackle issues vital to the region and help advance the Business Council's robust policy agenda. He played an instrumental role in one of the organization's most noteworthy accomplishments: the Business Council-led resolution of the long-running dispute between the City of New Orleans and its firefighters over the management and solvency of the New Orleans Firefighters Pension & Relief Fund.

Most recently, he was Of Counsel with Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz PC in its New Orleans office in the Business Litigation Practice Group.

Coleman has served his community through his volunteer work with various nonprofit organizations and boards, including Crescent City Schools, City of New Orleans Civil Service Commission, and Audubon Commission. He is also a graduate of the New Orleans Regional Leadership Institute (2013) and Leadership Louisiana (2016).