

Manuel A. Cornell

Partner

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Minneapolis – 612.492.5365



Manuel represents clients in complex business litigation and international arbitration.

Manuel represents clients in complex commercial disputes involving foreign investments, commercial contracts, employment matters, and construction projects. His practice spans state and federal courts, as well as local and international arbitrations under leading institutions such as the LCIA, ICDR, ICC, ICSID, and AAA. He is fluent in English and Spanish and has successfully tried cases in both languages.

Select Experience

- Obtained successful summary judgment ruling before Iowa federal court fully dismissing case against Nissan North America relating to alleged violations of Iowa's Motor Vehicle Franchise law in *Dave Wright Nissan Subaru, Inc. v. Nissan North America, Inc.*
- Represented Central American State in ICSID investment treaty arbitration against bank relating to forceful liquidation and asset forfeiture of financial institution (2025).
- Represented African State in ICSID investment treaty arbitration against mining company relating to a mining concession, including requests for provisional measures and a temporary restraining order (2024).
- Argued and obtained successful opinion from the Iowa Supreme Court relating to the application of a statute of limitations to an easement in *Rivera v. Clear Channel Outdoor, LLC*, No. 23-0679, 2024 WL 2868932 (Iowa June 7, 2024).

Court Admissions

- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Iowa
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Iowa

Professional Affiliations

- Member, Iowa State Bar Association
- Member, International Bar Association (IBA)

Education

- Drake University Law School (J.D., 2018)
 - With Honors
- Simpson College (B.A., Marketing / International Management, 2011)
 - *cum laude*

Bar Admissions

- Iowa
- Minnesota

- Member, International Association of Lawyers (UIA)

Charitable & Civic Involvement

- President, Iowa State Bar Association Young Lawyers Division

Accolades

- *Great Plains Super Lawyers*®, "Rising Stars," 2026
- *Best Lawyers in America*®, Appellate and Commercial Litigation, 2021-2025
- *Minnesota Lawyer*, Up & Coming Attorney, 2025
- Consistently providing pro bono legal assistance to those in need through Dorsey's Pro Bono program
- Contributed more than 50 Diversity & Inclusion hours, 2021, 2023, 2024
- MSBA, North Star Lawyer, 2024-2025
- Dorsey & Whitney – Scales of Justice Team Award (Dr. Conaway Disability Rights Team), 2021

Languages

- English and Spanish

Insights

December, 2025

The Fair and Equitable Doctrine: An Introduction and Presentation of Different Decisions

October 8, 2024

Dorsey Attorneys Contribute to Guide to Addressing Corruption Allegations in Arbitration Disputes

November 1, 2021

Iowa Passes New Law Related to COVID-19 Vaccination Mandates by Employers and Unemployment Insurance

August 11, 2020

SF 2338: A Proposed Fix for "Pexa" and the Pandemic

March 25, 2020

Deposition (Mis)Conduct: To Object, to Instruct, or to Simply Shut Up