

Trump Nominated Susan Courtwright Rodriguez, An Anti-Abortion Lawyer With A History Of Protecting Corporate Interests, To The Western District Of North Carolina

SUMMARY:

In August 2025, President Trump [announced](#) the nomination of Susan Courtwright Rodriguez to the Western District of North Carolina. In April 2023, Rodriguez was sworn in as a magistrate judge in the Western District of North Carolina. Previously, she was a [partner](#) at McGuireWoods LLP where she co-led the firm's financial institutions industry team and represented clients in government investigations.

From 2013-2021, Rodriguez served as a board member and then [president](#) of MiraVia, a Catholic "safe haven" that states life begins at conception and encourages pregnant women to avoid abortion. In recent years, she has [spoken](#) at at least two Federalist Society events and was previously a member of the Republican National Lawyers Association. Her longtime association with these conservative, anti-abortion organizations highlight her alignment with the legal effort to roll back reproductive rights.

Throughout her career, Rodriguez has sided with corporate interests accused of misconduct. As an attorney, she represented corporations accused of misconduct by the government or whistleblowers. In 2021, she [represented](#) Truist Bank after an employee sued for unlawful retaliation and wrongful termination for protected whistleblowing activities, and settled out of court. As a magistrate judge, she has continued to [rule](#) in favor of those interests.

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August 2025: Trump Nominated Susan Courtwright Rodriguez To The Western District Of North Carolina. "President Donald Trump announced four judicial nominees for vacant posts on North Carolina's district courts in Truth Social posts on Friday. Trump said he is nominating Matthew Orso and Susan Courtwright Rodriguez to the Western District Court and David Bragdon and Lindsey Freeman to the Middle District Court. If all are confirmed, he would have twice as many appointees to North Carolina's district courts as in his first term." [NC Newsline, [8/25/25](#)]







Rodriguez Has Served As A Magistrate Judge Since 2023 And Previously Represented Clients Involved In Government Investigations As A Partner At McGuireWoods LLP

April 2023: Rodriguez Was Sworn In As A Magistrate Judge For The Western District. "The Honorable Susan C. Rodriguez was sworn-in as a U.S. Magistrate Judge in the Western District of North Carolina on April 3, 2023. She was selected through a Merit Selection Panel, comprised of both attorneys throughout the district and community representatives." [Federalist Society, accessed [9/9/25](#)]

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Rodriguez Has Spoken At Two Federalist Society Events.

Past Events	COMMENTARY
 <p data-bbox="506 955 612 970">This event has concluded.</p>	<div data-bbox="711 858 881 875"> <p><i>Lunch and Keynote Address</i></p> </div> <div data-bbox="711 875 836 911"> <p>Renaissance North Hills 4100 Main at North Hills St Raleigh, NC 27609</p> </div> <div data-bbox="711 919 1083 955"> <p>Speakers: Susan C. Rodriguez · Thomas D. Schroeder · Amul R. Thapar</p> </div> <div data-bbox="711 963 805 984"> <p> In-Person Event</p> </div>
 <p data-bbox="506 1215 612 1230">   </p>	<div data-bbox="711 1031 1170 1062"> <p><i>Administrative Inquisitions? How Agencies Initiate, Conduct, and Conclude Investigations</i></p> </div> <div data-bbox="711 1087 875 1104"> <p><i>2021 National Lawyers Convention</i></p> </div> <div data-bbox="711 1115 847 1150"> <p>The Mayflower Hotel 1127 Connecticut Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20036</p> </div> <div data-bbox="711 1165 1154 1197"> <p>Speakers: Tyler S. Clarkson · Aram A. Gavor · James C. Ho · Richard J. Pierce · Susan C. Rodriguez</p> </div> <div data-bbox="810 1205 844 1224"> <p>more</p> </div> <div data-bbox="711 1239 958 1251"> <p>Topics: Administrative Law & Regulation</p> </div> <div data-bbox="711 1260 1029 1274"> <p>Sponsors: Administrative Law & Regulation Practice Group</p> </div> <div data-bbox="711 1302 805 1320"> <p> In-Person Event</p> </div>

[Federalist Society, accessed [9/9/25](#)]

Lawyers Association, accessed [9/9/25](#)]

Rodriguez Served As President Of MiraVia, A Catholic “Safe Haven” For Pregnant Women

2013-2021: Rodriguez Served As A Board Member Or President Of MiraVia

2021: Rodriguez Served As The President Of MiraVia.

(6) SUSAN RODRIGUEZ PRESIDENT	1.00	X	X			0	0
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[MiraVia, Form 990, FY July 2020-June 2021]

2013: Rodriguez Served On The Board Of Directors Of MiraVia.

[illegible]

[MiraVia, Form 990, July 2012-June [2013](#)]

MiraVia Is A Catholic “Safe Haven” For Pregnant Women

MiraVia Is A “Safe Haven” For Pregnant Mothers Which Invokes A “Christ-Centered Approach,” And Believes Life Starts “From The Moment Of Conception.” “Respecting and affirming life from the moment of conception, MiraVia has been a safe haven and source of hope for pregnant mothers and their children since 1994. Invoking a Christ-centered approach inspired by the examples of Mary and Joseph, MiraVia helps young families move toward a new life of hopeful, independent, and healthy living and educates the broader community on the importance of fostering a culture of life.” [MiraVia, accessed [9/8/25](#)]

- **MiraVia Is A Catholic 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Organization.** “MiraVia, Inc. is an accredited Catholic, 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation operating in Charlotte, North Carolina. It was incorporated as Room At The Inn, Inc. by the Secretary of State in March 1994. The organization was rebranded as MiraVia in 2013. MiraVia is a ministry of the Catholic Church and is listed in the P.J. Kenedy and Sons Official Catholic Directory. In 2023, MiraVia was accredited The Gold Seal of Approval by The Joint Commission.” [MiraVia, accessed [9/8/25](#)]

MiraVia Celebrated The Supreme Court's Reversal Of *Roe v. Wade* At A "Leading The Way To Life" Fundraiser. "It was a moment to remember when more than 1,200 joy-filled pro-life advocates rose to their feet to applaud the reversal of the *Roe v. Wade* Supreme Court decision during the 'Leading the Way to Life' fundraiser for MiraVia Oct. 20 at the Charlotte Convention Center. MiraVia has helped more than 11,000 women and children since 1994. 'I will always remember (June 24),' said Debbie Capen, executive director of MiraVia, during her remarks. 'I went to the chapel immediately at MiraVia and knelt in front of Our Lord (in the tabernacle) and thanked Him. So many of us said we'd never live to see the day and here it was. I didn't know how to express that gratitude,' she said." [Catholic News Herald, [10/25/22](#)]

As A Corporate Attorney And A Magistrate Judge, Rodriguez Has Sided With Corporate Interests Accused Of Misconduct

Rodriguez Represented Truist Bank After They Were Sued For Alleged Wrongful Retaliation Against A Whistleblower And Settled Out Of Court

2021: An Employee Of Truist Bank Sued The Company For Unlawful Retaliation And Wrongful Termination For Protected Whistleblowing Activities. “Denise Whiting (‘Whiting’), a former employee of Defendant, brings this complaint for unlawful retaliation and wrongful termination for protected whistleblowing activities in violation of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 [...] On February 10, 2017, Whiting notified EVP of Financial Crimes and SVP of FIU of Financial Crimes that there were several accounts open for clients with links to human trafficking. These accounts should have already been closed or more actively monitored based on previous SARs filed between 2012 and 2015. Upon information and belief, no action was taken by EVP of Financial Crimes [...] Upon information and belief, BB&T fired Whiting for her whistleblower activities so it could continue to misrepresent to shareholders that it had an effective BSA/AML program when it, in fact, did not.” [Western District of North Carolina, Whiting v. Truist Bank, Amended Complaint, filed [9/20/21](#)]

Susan Rodriguez Represented Truist Bank.

Respectfully submitted,

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[Western District of North Carolina, Whiting v. Truist Bank, Corporate Disclosure, filed [7/14/21](#)]

The Case Was Settled Out Of Court. “I hereby report and certify that on January 31, 2022, the parties and their respective attorneys participated in a mediated settlement conference with the undersigned, the result of which was a settlement of all claims. The parties will be filing a stipulation of dismissal.” [Western District of North Carolina, Whiting v. Truist Bank, Report of Mediator, filed [2/9/22](#)]

The Case Was Dismissed. “Pursuant to Rule 41(a)(1)(A)(ii) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Plaintiff Denise Whiting and Defendant Truist Bank f/k/a Branch Banking and Trust Company, by and through the undersigned counsel, hereby stipulate to the dismissal of this action with prejudice, with each party bearing her or its own attorneys’ fees and costs. This shall conclude the matter. This the 25th day of February 2022.” [Western District of North Carolina, Whiting v. Truist Bank, Stipulation of Dismissal with Prejudice, filed [2/25/22](#)]

Rodriguez Presided Over *Rodriguez v. Wipro*, Ruling Against A Whistleblower Who Alleged Wrongful Retaliation

A Plaintiff Alleged She Was Discriminated Against And Wrongfully Terminated After Whistleblowing Suspicious Activity By A Coworker To Her Employer. “Plaintiff brought this lawsuit under federal law alleging violations of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act (‘SOX’) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (‘ADA’). (Amend. Comp., Doc. No. 32). Accepting the facts alleged in the Amended Complaint as true for the purposes of evaluating this Motion to Dismiss, Plaintiff Virgilia Rodriguez is a former employee of Defendant Wipro Limited. Id. 1. Defendant terminated Plaintiff’s employment on June 6, 2022. Id. ¶¶ 1, 6. [...] In accordance with Defendant’s ‘suspicious activity’ policy, Plaintiff ‘reported the existence of Dauphine along with Mr. Schwab’s behaviors and absenteeism’ to Human Resources Manager Brittney Cammack (‘Ms. Cammack’). [...] On June 6, 2022, Defendant terminated Plaintiff’s employment. [...] Plaintiff further states she was ‘discriminated and retaliated against. . . based upon her report of David Schwab’s illicit corporation to her former supervisors.’ Id. 10. Plaintiff also contends Defendant ignored her ADA protections.” [Western District of North Carolina, Rodriguez v. Wipro Limited, Order, filed [9/30/24](#)]

Rodriguez Ruled In Favor Of The Defendant, Dismissing The Plaintiff’s Complaints. “Defendant’s ‘Motion to Dismiss Plaintiff’s Amended Complaint’ (Doc. No. 36) is GRANTED. Plaintiff’s SOX and ADA claims are DISMISSED WITHOUT PREJUDICE. Plaintiff’s claim under 18 U.S.C. § 1348 is DISMISSED WITH PREJUDICE.” [Western District of North Carolina, Rodriguez v. Wipro Limited, Order, filed [9/30/24](#)]

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