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Climbing the ranks: Amy Ferrer

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W. Marc Bernsau Amy F. Ferrer

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As an attorney at <u>McDermott Will & Emery</u> LLP focusing on corporate securities, mergers and acquisitions, and capital market transactions, Amy F. Ferrer has combined her two biggest professional interests.

"I knew I wanted something that had to do with the financial sector and the law. It was just a goal of mind, and I never wavered from it," she said.

Ferrer recently reached another professional milestone: becoming a firm partner.

"Being partner has always been a goal of mine," she said. "It's obviously a goal of mine to feel appreciated, to know that all my hard work over the years has paid off."

She said she doesn't expect that being partner will change her day-to-day activities or her relationships with clients, but she said it does give her a new "level of respect." Ferrer said it also opens doors to more opportunities in the firm as well as in the profession.

Ferrer, who graduated in 2003 from Fordham University School of Law in New York City, has worked for McDermott Will & Emery for the past five years. She had worked for another firm for about 18 months prior to that.

Ferrer took her first dive into corporate law as an undergraduate intern at a D.C. law firm, where she worked in the litigation department. She said she learned there that she liked the fast-paced nature of corporate transactions and thrived under the busy, pressure-filled schedule.

Like other women in the partner class of 2010, Ferrer said she hasn't experienced any gender bias in the legal field.

"I do notice that there are more male partners, but the firm is supportive of women and I don't notice any difference in how it treats men and women," she said, adding that up until recently the head of the firm's Boston office was a woman.

Moving ahead, Ferrer said she plans to continue to build her practice and her relationships with clients and others within the firm.