

# SHEILA NIAZ

Minneapolis, Minnesota · [sheilaniaz.com](http://sheilaniaz.com)

612-222-0629

SheilaNiaz@icloud.com

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### U.S. District Court, District of Minnesota

Judicial Law Clerk to the Honorable Wilhelmina M. Wright

St. Paul, Minnesota  
February 2023 – Present

### Greenberg Traurig, LLP

Intellectual Property Associate

Minneapolis, Minnesota  
June 2022 - February 2023

- ▶ Prepare and prosecute design, hardware and software patent applications, including applications in the machine learning, IoT devices, software-as-a-service, web services, data platforms, cryptography, blockchain, financial technology, augmented reality/virtual reality, electronic payment processing, and warehouse automation space.
- ▶ Conduct intellectual property litigation, which includes producing infringement and/or invalidity analyses, drafting briefs before the District Court, Minnesota Court of Appeals, and the Patent and Trademark Trial and Appeals Boards, appearing for court hearings, developing litigation strategy, and preparing and practicing for trial.
- ▶ Educate and coach clients on legal risk issues and fashion solutions that balance legal risk with client objectives; advise clients on a variety of copyright, advertising, licensing, branding, domain names, sweepstakes, and internet enforcement matters.
- ▶ Knowledge and experience counseling on GDPR, CPRA, and other applicable privacy frameworks; advise, draft, and negotiate the privacy, content protection, and data security portions of contracts with vendors and other business partners.

### Merchant & Gould, P.A.

Associate Patent Attorney, Law Clerk

Minneapolis, Minnesota  
December 2019 – June 2022

### Microsoft

Senior Student Partner

St. Paul, Minnesota  
August 2016 – May 2020

- ▶ As a liaison between University of St. Thomas and Mitchell Hamline School of Law students and Microsoft, I planned and conducted over 30 presentations, workshops, and seminars to educate and train people in software development. I also managed two other student partners across the Midwest and co-led four Girls Who Code events for 100+ middle schoolers to increase their exposure to STEM.

### SRF Consulting Group, Inc.

Software Engineer

Minneapolis, Minnesota  
May 2016 – September 2020

- ▶ Developed software applications to assist with engineering design tools, GIS, and CAD utilities.
- ▶ As a full stack developer, created responsive and interactive web and mobile applications that interact with different database platforms and data sources through various API technologies.

## EDUCATION

### Mitchell Hamline School of Law, Saint Paul, MN

Juris Doctor; Certificate in Patent Law (Bar: MN, 2020; U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, patent practitioner)

May 2020

- ▶ Editor-in-Chief, Vol 11.2; Executive Editor, Vol 11.1 - Cybaris Intellectual Property Law Review, 2019-20
- ▶ Semifinalist, AIPLA Giles S. Rich Patent Moot Court Competition, 2019

### University of Saint Thomas, Saint Paul, MN

Bachelor's, Computer Science

May 2017

## INTERESTS & PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- ▶ Board Member, Chiefs in Intellectual Property (ChIPs) Twin Cities Ch. Advisory Bd., 2021-Present
- ▶ Chair, Women in Intellectual Property Law; Minnesota Intellectual Property Law Association, 2022
- ▶ Chair, Intellectual Property Practice Group; Federal Bar Association, Minnesota Chapter, 2022-Present
- ▶ Member, the Honorable Jimmie V. Reyna Intellectual Property American Inns of Court, 2019-Present
- ▶ Nine-time marathon runner