

SHEILA NIAZ

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Norton Rose Fulbright, LLP

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Associate, IP and Products Liability Litigation

July 2024 - Present

- ▶ Represent clients in various intellectual property (IP) and product liability litigation matters, including patent, trademark, copyright infringement, and defective product claims. Conduct legal research, draft memoranda, pleadings, and briefs, and participate in all phases of discovery.
- ▶ Assist in preparing for and attending court hearings, mediations, and trials; communicate effectively with clients, opposing counsel, and internal team members to ensure successful outcomes.

U.S. District Court, District of Minnesota

St. Paul, Minnesota

Judicial Law Clerk to Judge Wilhelmina M. Wright, Chief Judge Patrick J. Schiltz

Feb. 2023 - July 2024

- ▶ Responsible for managing assigned civil and criminal cases from start to finish; reviewed complaints, petitions, motions, and pleadings to identify and analyze issues and basis for relief.
- ▶ Performed legal research, identified problem areas, recommended solutions, and offered advice to the Judge on pending litigation; drafted recommendations and substantive orders.

Greenberg Traurig, LLP

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Intellectual Property Associate

June 2022 - February 2023

- ▶ Prepared and prosecuted patent applications for technologies such as machine learning, IoT, SaaS, web services, data platforms, cryptography, blockchain, fintech, AR/VR, electronic payments, and automation.
- ▶ Conducted intellectual property litigation and advised clients on legal risks, balancing objectives with infringement/invalidity analyses, briefs, court appearances, trial prep, and guidance on copyright, advertising, licensing, branding, domains, and enforcement.

Merchant & Gould, P.A.

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Associate Patent Attorney, Law Clerk

December 2019 – June 2022

- ▶ Delivered end-to-end legal solutions encompassing patent applications, litigation, enforcement, risk management, privacy frameworks, and data security.
- ▶ Recipient, Merchant & Gould Pro Bono Attorney of the Year Award, 2021

SRF Consulting Group, Inc.

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Software Engineer

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

May 2020

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

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

University of Saint Thomas, Saint Paul, MN

May 2017

Bachelor's, Computer Science

INTERESTS & PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- ▶ Treasurer, Hon. Jimmie V. Reyna IP American Inns of Court, 2024-Present; Member, 2019-Present
- ▶ Board Member, Chiefs in Intellectual Property (ChIPs) Twin Cities Ch. Advisory Bd., 2021-Present
- ▶ Board Member, Minnesota Intellectual Property Law Association, 2022-Present
- ▶ Chair, Intellectual Property Practice Group, Federal Bar Association, MN Chapter, 2022-Present
- ▶ Board Member, Minnesota Asian Pacific American Bar Association, 2024-Present
- ▶ Nine-time marathon runner