

SHEILA NIAZ

Minneapolis, Minnesota · sheilaniaz.com

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Norton Rose Fulbright, LLP

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Senior Associate, Litigation

July 2024 - Present

- Represent clients in intellectual property, product liability, consumer protection, commercial disputes and class-action matters; draft dispositive and discovery motions, appellate briefs, and trial filings.
- Leverage engineering background to analyze technical evidence and expert reports.

U.S. District Court, District of Minnesota

St. Paul, Minnesota

Judicial Law Clerk to Chief Judge Patrick J. Schiltz, Judge Wilhelmina M. Wright, Feb. 2023 - July 2024

- Managed civil and criminal dockets; drafted substantive orders, recommendations, and bench memoranda; conducted legal research on constitutional, statutory, and procedural issues.

Prior Experience:

- Associate, Greenberg Traurig LLP
- Associate, Merchant & Gould P.A.
- Software Engineer, SRF Consulting Group, Inc.

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 Intellectual Property Law Review
- Semifinalist, AIPLA Giles S. Rich Patent Moot Court Competition

University of St. Thomas, Saint Paul, MN

May 2017

B.A., Computer Science

LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

- Director, Minnesota Chapter, Federal Bar Association, 2026-Present
- Eighth Circuit Representative, Board of Directors, Federal Bar Association, 2025-Present
- President-Elect, Minnesota Asian Pacific American Bar Association, 2024-Present
- Treasurer, Minnesota Intellectual Property Law Association, 2022-Present
- Chair, Intellectual Property Practice Group, Minnesota Chapter, Federal Bar Association, 2022-2025
- Treasurer, Hon. Jimmie V. Reyna IP American Inn of Court, 2024-Present; Member, 2019-Present
- Board Member, ChIPs Twin Cities Chapter, 2021-Present

HONORS & AWARDS

- Member of the Year, Minnesota Asian Pacific American Bar Association, 2026
- Up & Coming Attorney, *Minnesota Lawyer*, 2026
- Rookie of the Year, Norton Rose Fulbright LLP, 2026
- Attorney of the Year, *Minnesota Lawyer*, 2025
- Notable Diverse Leader in Law, *Twin Cities Business*, 2024
- Pro Bono Attorney of the Year, Merchant & Gould P.A., 2021
- North Star Pro Bono Lawyer, Minnesota State Bar Association, 2020-25

SELECTED SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Moderator, "Beyond the Playbook: Inside the Life of a Pro Sports Team General Counsel," Federal Bar Association's Federal Practice Seminar, July 2026
- Speaker, "Greenwashing Under Scrutiny: Navigating Legal Risks in Environmental Claims," Federal Bar Association, November 2025
- Panelist, "Muslims in Law," University of Minnesota, November 2025
- Speaker, "IPR Estoppel: What Judges Need to Know Now," U.S. District Court, District of Minnesota Judicial In-Court Seminar, September 2025