

SHILPA PATEL

Winnipeg, Manitoba

ARTICLING CANDIDATE

Internationally trained law student licensed in India and actively pursuing licensure in Canada. 15+ years' post-Bar experience in criminal and family law with focus on child custody and domestic violence, in addition to corporate legal advising. Earned NCA Certificate of Qualification (CQ) in December 2023 and enrolled in the Practice Readiness Education Program (PREP) in May 2024.

EDUCATION

Practice Readiness Education Program (PREP) , CPLED	May 2024 – Present
NCA Certificate of Qualification (CQ) , Federation of Law Societies of Canada	Dec. 2023
Bachelor of Law , Gujarat University, India	2003
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Called to Bar council of Maharashtra and Goa in 2004.	
Bachelor of Arts (English) , Gujarat University, India	1998

EXPERIENCE

Sobeys, Manitoba Oct. 2021 – Present

Grocery retail chain established in 1907 with ~1500 stores across Canada and ~130,000 employees. Sobeys Kenaston employs ~150 people.

Front-End Supervisor: Kenaston (Nov. 2023 – Present)

Front-End Supervisor: Sobeys Extra, Brandon (Oct. 2021 – Aug. 2023)

- Supervise teams of 6-7 cashiers and baggers per shift, ensuring efficient customer flow and maintaining cleanliness standards.
- Manage schedules, train new hires, and provide performance coaching.
- Handled cheque payments and merchandise returns, and resolve customer complaints while adhering to company policies.
- Trained in and mediated on workplace issues between student employees and management, and collaborated with other departments for seamless operations.

SVM Legal, Mumbai, India Jan. 2011 – Jul. 2021

Law firm in south Mumbai, with varied practice areas and ~35 staff.

Lawyer

- Managed intricate criminal and family law cases, including trial representation, and drafting opinion letters, legal memos, and advocacy letters.
- Supported clients in criminal matters such as fraud, bounced cheques, assault and domestic violence. Researched and prepared persuasive pre-trial motions and bail applications, and represented clients in- and post-trial, including evidence preparation and cross-examination.

SHILPA PATEL

- Led on emotionally charged divorce and spousal support matters, researching and advocating for client interests while prioritizing well-being of children. Negotiated and mediated to resolve family disputes amicably and achieve favorable settlements.
- Achieved successful final and interim order outcomes for clients in appellate court proceedings in matters such as spousal support, domestic violence and bail.

Legal Adviser (Freelance)

Oct. 2005 – Jul. 2021

Supported 2 small companies with legal advice and representation, and contracted with a multi-branch stock brokerage firm as legal panel member and advisor.

- Provided advice to Stationery Point India Ltd. (manufacturing) and Gurukrupa Scaffoldings (scaffolding company) on legal issues and represented them in criminal and civil court.
- Represented India Capital Markets Pvt. Ltd before National Stock Exchange, Bombay Stock Exchange and National Security Depository arbitration tribunals, and resolved investor grievances.

Previous Roles

- **Junior Associate**, Advocate Mr. Vasant Mehta, Mumbai 2007 – 2010
- **Junior Associate**, Advocate Mr. Anantrav More & Rajesh More, Borivali, Mumbai 2005 – 2007

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Bavis Gam Kadava Patidar Samaj, Mumbai

Jan. 2017 – Dec. 2019

Social organization of Mumbai residents from the same rural area, with ~250 members organizing cultural programs, meetings and gatherings, and providing housing and education loans and family counselling.

Honorary Secretary

- Oversaw member details, and management of gatherings and meetings.
- Provided free counselling in family matters to organisation members unable to pay legal fees in family disputes such as marital violence victim, and connected them with NGOs for support.

INTERESTS

Travel: Out of the Seven Wonders of the World, I have visited two: the Taj Mahal in India and the Pyramids in Egypt. My next wonder visit will be the Eiffel Tower in Paris. I have also visited 6 of 28 states in India.

Cooking: Love cooking authentic Indian cuisine, especially South Indian dishes. Like to experiment with fusing Indian recipes and Canadian ingredients, replacing Indian ingredients that are hard to find locally.

Sports: Member of school athletic team and competed at City and District levels in 100 metre and 800 metre running events in addition to long and high jump, with multiple wins.