



— Law Office of —
MANISHA P. PATEL, PLLC

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November 4, 2024

Dear Members of the 24th Judicial District,

I am excited to submit my candidacy for a second three-year term to represent the 24th Judicial District on the North Carolina State Bar Council. I hold myself to the highest of ethical standards and am confident that I can continue to represent you with integrity and professionalism on a statewide level.

Over the past three years, I have served on the following committees of the NC State Bar Council: Access to Justice, Authorized Practice, Grievance (Sub II), Publications Editorial Board, and the Distinguished Service Award Committee. Beginning in January 2022, I created the Councilor's Corner for publication in member newsletters and have continued, with my fellow Councilor Judge Patrice Hinnant, throughout the year with updates from our quarterly Council meetings. I continue to remain current with the North Carolina State Bar structure and have fostered relationships with fellow Council members from across the state to bring ideas back to our district.

One of my greatest life passions is serving my community, whether it be the legal community, Guilford County, or North Carolina. Thank you for the trust and confidence you have shown in me. I look forward to the opportunity to continue serving you and our district. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or would like to discuss my goals for the upcoming term.

Sincerely,

Manisha P. Patel, Esq.
24th Judicial District President (2024-2025)
NC State Bar Councilor for the 24th Judicial District



Manisha Pravinchandra Patel

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LICENSURE: North Carolina State Bar, 2012; United States Federal Court, Middle District of North Carolina, 2017.

CERTIFICATIONS: North Carolina Dispute Resolution Commission: NC DRC Certified Family Financial Mediator; Notary Public (Exp. 05/12/2025)

EDUCATION

Elon University School of Law, Greensboro, North Carolina

May 2011

Juris Doctor, Specializations in General Practice and Business

Activities: Women's Law Association: Vice President, Professional Chair; Student Bar Association: Elections Committee; Family Law Society: Vice President Finance

Honors: Phi Alpha Delta, Graduation Marshall 2010

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, Virginia

May 2008

Bachelor of Arts in Economics, Bachelor of Arts in History

Activities: Residence Hall Federation (RHF), Virginia Association of College and University Residence Halls (VACURH), Alpha Gamma Delta International Fraternity

Honors: National Residence Hall Honorary, A. Alan Baird Award and Scholarship, Rho Lambda, RHF Distinguished Service Award, RHF Student of the Year, Order of the Gavel Leadership Society, VACURH State Board Recognition Award, RHF Officer of the Year, VACURH Four Year Service Award

WORK EXPERIENCE

Law Office of Manisha P. Patel, PLLC, Greensboro, North Carolina

Managing Attorney and Owner (Practice limited to NC Family Law)

- Managed all aspects of firm management ranging from trust accounting, QuickBooks, Clio Grow, Clio Manage, Billing, Collections, and Implementing Systems and Procedures.
- Webmaster for <https://www.lawofficeofmpp.com> and all social media accounts.
- Managed cases in the following areas: negotiating separation & property settlements, negotiating pre-nuptial agreements, equitable distribution, spousal support, child support, child custody, divorce, name changes (adult and minor), and adoptions (adult, stepparent, relative-caregiver, and foreign re-adoptions).
- Argued Trials and Motions for a variety of family law matters in District Court in person and through Zoom and WebEx.
- Conducted meetings with local attorneys and District Court judges in Court.
- Met with clients on a regular basis for complex Equitable Distribution and Support matters
- Developed annual marketing plan for law firm.
- Drafted Orders, pleadings, separation agreements, and various documents for family law cases
- Interviewed witnesses for hearings and trials.
- Communicated with attorneys and clients on a daily basis to discuss substantive areas of law and provide information on pertinent matters and cases.
- Conducted intakes and consultations with potential clients.
- Created firm procedures and integrated workflows into Clio Grow and Clio Manage
- Hired and trained various staff members ranging from an associate attorney, paralegals, legal assistants, and law student clerks.

Ward Black Law, PA, Greensboro, North Carolina

Attorney (Practice limited to NC Family Law)

- Managed cases in the following areas: negotiating separation & property settlements, negotiating pre-nuptial agreements, equitable distribution, spousal support, child support, child custody, divorce, name changes (adult and minor), and adoptions (adult, stepparent, relative-caregiver, and foreign re-adoptions).
- Argued Trials and Motions for a variety of family law matters in District Court.
- Conducted meetings with local attorneys and District Court judges in Court.

- Argued court-appointed and non-court appointed child support enforcement cases and negotiated with County Attorneys and Child Support Enforcement Agents.
- Managed 100+ cases and led bi-weekly status meetings for the Family Law practice area.
- Met with clients on a regular basis to review all financial documents for all support and complex Equitable Distribution and Support matters.
- Expanded case coverage to adoptions within the Family Law practice.
- Researched complex family law issues for Federal Court and local District Court using LexisNexis and FastCase.
- Managed case audits, client billing, tracked fees per month and quarter, and reconciled trust accounts as Business Manager of the Family Law practice area.
- Created and integrated procedural systems within the Family Law practice area and the firm
- Developed marketing objectives for the Family Law practice.
- Supervised and trained Family Law practice area paralegals, case managers, and interns.
- Created and integrated procedural systems within the Family Law practice area and the firm
- Developed marketing objectives for the Family Law practice.
- Drafted Orders, pleadings, separation agreements, and various documents for family law cases.
- Interviewed witnesses for hearings and trials.
- Spoke with attorneys and clients on a daily basis to discuss substantive areas of law and provide information on pertinent matters and cases.
- Conducted intakes and consultations with potential clients.

The Law Office of Afi Johnson-Parris, Greensboro, North Carolina

Contract Attorney; Law Clerk

- Argued court-appointed child support enforcement cases.
- Attended monthly Calendar Call for family law cases.
- Drafted pleadings (complaints, answers, replies, motions, orders) and various documents (child support worksheets, financial affidavits, separation agreements, foreign adoptions).
- Conducted meetings with clients, participated in mediations and arbitrations.
- Spoke with attorneys and clients on a daily basis, responded to phone calls, office filing.
- Researched various family law issues using LexisNexis and Westlaw, assisted in trial preparation, filed pleadings in courthouse.

Wills Drafting Clinic at the Elon Clinical Law Center, Greensboro, North Carolina

Student Lawyer (3rd Year Practice Certification)

- Interviewed and counseled community members.
- Drafted Wills, Durable Power of Attorney, Health Care Power of Attorney, and Advanced Care Directives for community members.
- Researched statutes and prepared documents pertinent to estate planning and advance care directives.
- Spoke about the need for careful estate planning at Habitat for Humanity events.
- Researched, wrote, and presented memorandum on creditors' claims on estates

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- ❖ North Carolina State Bar Council: Elected Councilor for the 24th Judicial District of North Carolina, 2022-Present.
- ❖ National Conference of Women's Bar Associations: American Bar Association Commission on Women in the Profession Liaison, 2023-Present; Board of Directors, 2021-Present; Executive Secretary, 2022-2023.
- ❖ Legal Aid of North Carolina: Board of Directors, 2020-2023.
- ❖ North Carolina Association of Women Attorneys: Immediate Past-President, 2021; President, 2019 & 2020; President-Elect, 2018; Vice-President, June 2017- December 2017; Secretary, January- June 2017; Education Co-Chair, 2017; Education Chair, 2016; Education Committee, 2013.
- ❖ Piedmont Triad Women Attorneys: Immediate Past-President, 2018 & 2019; President, 2016 & 2017; Treasurer/Secretary, 2015.

- ❖ North Carolina Bar Association: Small Firm & Technology Section Council 2019-Present (Chair-Elect 2024-Present, Secretary 2023-2024, Treasurer 2022-2024, Young Lawyers Division Liaison, CLE Chair 2021-2022); Women in the Profession Committee (Member 2020-Present: Secretary, 2021-2022, Vice-Chair, 2022-2023); Young Lawyers Division (Nominating Committee); Family Law Section (Family Law Council, Pro-Bono Committee Co-Chair, 2016-2018); Task Force on NCBA Pro-Bono Project Free Legal Answers.
- ❖ North Carolina Advocates for Justice: Board of Governors (2020-2023); Family Law Section (Chair 2020-2021, Membership Chair 2017- 2019); Women’s Caucus; Membership Committee; New Lawyers Division (Education Co-Chair 2019-2020); Education Committee.
- ❖ Greensboro Bar Association: President (2024-Present); President-Elect (2023-2024); Board of Directors (2021-2023); Pro Bono Committee Chair (2020-Present); Herb Falk Society Chair (2018- 2020); Young Lawyers Section; Family Law Section; Holiday Committee, Scholarship Committee.
- ❖ 24th Judicial District: President (2024-Present); President-Elect (2023-2024).
- ❖ 18th Judicial District Local Rules Committee.
- ❖ American Bar Association: Commission on Women in the Profession; Law Practice Management Division Council Member; Women Rainmakers Committee.
- ❖ South Asian Bar Association of North America.
- ❖ Phi Alpha Delta Fraternity.

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

- ❖ Virginia Tech Alumni Association
- ❖ Alpha Gamma Delta International Fraternity
- ❖ Elon University School of Law Alumni (past Council member)
- ❖ McAlister Woods Homeowners Association: Member (2016-Present), President (2022-Present), President (2017- 2019), Vice-President (2016-2017)

ACCOLADES

- ❖ 2024 Super Lawyers Rising Stars
- ❖ 2023 North Carolina Pro Bono Honor Society, Supreme Court of North Carolina
- ❖ 2023 Greensboro Bar Association Herb Falk Society- Pro Bono Honor Society (292 hours)
- ❖ 2023 Super Lawyers Rising Stars
- ❖ 2023 Business North Carolina Legal Elite for Family Law
- ❖ 2022 North Carolina Pro Bono Honor Society, Supreme Court of North Carolina
- ❖ 2022 Greensboro Bar Association Herb Falk Society- Pro Bono Honor Society (601 hours)
- ❖ 2022 Super Lawyers Rising Stars
- ❖ 2022 Business North Carolina Legal Elite for Family Law
- ❖ 2021 North Carolina Pro Bono Honor Society, Supreme Court of North Carolina

- ❖ 2021 Greensboro Bar Association Herb Falk Society- Pro Bono Honor Society (327.4 hours)
- ❖ 2021 Super Lawyers Rising Stars
- ❖ 2020 Greensboro Bar Association Pro Bono Award
- ❖ 2020 North Carolina Lawyers Weekly: Leaders in the Law
- ❖ 2020 North Carolina Pro Bono Honor Society, Supreme Court of North Carolina
- ❖ 2020 Greensboro Bar Association Herb Falk Society- Pro Bono Honor Society (393.25 hours)
- ❖ 2020 Super Lawyers Rising Stars
- ❖ 2020 Business North Carolina Legal Elite for Family Law
- ❖ 2019 Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech) Department of Economics Commencement Speaker
- ❖ 2019 North Carolina Pro Bono Honor Society, Supreme Court of North Carolina
- ❖ 2019 North Carolina Bar Association Young Lawyer's Division Pro Bono Attorney of the Year
- ❖ 2019 Greensboro Bar Association Herb Falk Society- Pro Bono Honor Society (651.5 hours)
- ❖ 2019 Super Lawyers Rising Stars
- ❖ 2019 Triad Business Journal Top 40 Leaders Under 40
- ❖ 2019 Business North Carolina Legal Elite for Family Law
- ❖ 2018 Greensboro Bar Association Herb Falk Society- Pro Bono Honor Society (623.5 hours)
- ❖ 2018 Young Alumna of the Year (Elon University School of Law Women's Law Association)
- ❖ 2018 Business North Carolina Legal Elite for Family Law
- ❖ 2017 North Carolina Bar Association Leadership Academy
- ❖ 2016 Greensboro Bar Association Herb Falk Society- Pro Bono Honor Society (162 hours)

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- ❖ North Carolina Family Law: 2023 Lexington Continuing Legal Education
- ❖ North Carolina Advocates for Justice: Representing People
- ❖ North Carolina Bar Association Membership Panel: Establishing a Summer Associate Program
- ❖ North Carolina Lawyers Assistance Program (NC LAP): 2023 Minority Outreach Conference
- ❖ University of North Carolina School of Law: Small Firm Law Practice Course Guest Lecturer
- ❖ North Carolina Bar Association Small Firm and Technology Section Annual Continuing Legal Education (CLE) May 2022: Starting Out Solo
- ❖ Greensboro Bar Association: 2022 Annual CLE- Pro Bono for NC Attorneys

- ❖ North Carolina Advocates for Justice Fall Conference for Paralegals: Diversity and Inclusion Perspectives
- ❖ North Carolina Association of Women Attorneys 2021 Annual Conference: Pro Bono for NC Attorneys Continuing Legal Education
- ❖ Elon University School of Law: Perspectives on Perseverance and Success
- ❖ North Carolina Family Law: 2019 Lexington Continuing Legal Education
- ❖ 2019 Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech) Department of Economics Commencement Speaker
- ❖ Elon Law LLP: How to be a Successful, Culturally Competent, Summer Intern
- ❖ North Carolina Bar Association Minorities in the Profession & Young Lawyers Division: How to Build Your Brand as a Diverse Attorney
- ❖ High Point Bar Association: Microsoft Office 101 for Lawyers
- ❖ Elon University School of Law: Solo & Small Practice Course Panelist
- ❖ North Carolina Bar Association: Professionalism for New Attorneys (PNA)- Associate Breakout Panel
- ❖ 2018 Child Support Enforcement: Representing Respondents- Advocacy in Contempt Cases (University of North Carolina School of Government, March 1, 2018)
- ❖ WFMY News 2- 2 Wants You to Know: Filing for Separation? You Don't Have To
- ❖ Elon University School of Law: Preparing for Your Law Career- Practice Area Panel
- ❖ Elon University School of Law: Elon Law Admitted Students Panel

PRO BONO LEGAL SERVICE

- ❖ Guilford County Guardian ad Litem Volunteer: 2019- Present
- ❖ North Carolina Bar Foundation Pro Se Custody Clinic Planning Group
- ❖ Planning Committee: Greensboro Landlord-Tenant Eviction Mediation Program, 2020
- ❖ North Carolina Justice Center: Driver's License Restoration Clinics, 2019-Present
- ❖ Name Change Clinics for Gender Transitioning Individuals, 2019-Present
- ❖ North Carolina Justice Center: Power of Attorney Clinics for Immigrants, 2016-Present
- ❖ North Carolina Bar Association: Free Legal Answers (FLA) Task Force, FLA Volunteer Attorney, 2017-Present
- ❖ Legal Aid of North Carolina- Volunteer Attorney for Pro Se Divorce Clinics, 2015-Present
- ❖ Volunteer Judge for Elon Law Moot Court Competitions
- ❖ Elon Law Preceptor for 1L students
- ❖ Legal Aid of North Carolina- Volunteer Attorney for Lawyer on the Line Program, 2012-Present

- ❖ North Carolina Bar Association 4ALL Volunteer Attorney, 2012- Present
- ❖ North Carolina Advocates for Justice Annual High School Mock Trial- Soring Juror and Presiding Judge, 2012- Present

LANGUAGES

English, Elementary Gujarati (conversational), Elementary Italian (conversational), Elementary Spanish (conversational), Elementary Hindi (beginner), Elementary French (beginner).

PUBLICATIONS

[Celebrating National Pro Bono Week](#) (NC Bar Association Blog)

[Tying the Knot in North Carolina? Four Simple Steps to Making it Official](#) (Saathee Magazine)

INTERESTS & ACTIVITIES

International Travel, Burn Boot Camp, running (10 half marathons completed to date plus numerous smaller races throughout the United States and Canada), Reading, Gardening, Virginia Tech (Hokies) Athletics, Alpha Gamma Delta International Fraternity (former Advisor to Gamma Eta Chapter), Triad Hokies Alumni Chapter.