



## Cara Mia Pinto

### Associate

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## OVERVIEW

Cara Pinto is an associate in the firm's Pittsburgh office. Ms. Pinto is a registered patent attorney who focuses her practice on various intellectual property matters.

Ms. Pinto's practice includes patent preparation and prosecution before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office for utility and design patent applications. She participates in various aspects of the patent procurement process including reviewing invention disclosures, drafting applications, preparing filings including responses to office actions, and interviewing Examiners. Ms. Pinto's practice also involves patent invalidity, clearance, freedom-to-operate analyses, and due diligence studies.

In addition, Ms. Pinto works on trademark portfolio development and maintenance which includes the preparation of trademark applications. She counsels clients on trademark clearance, registration, maintenance and enforcement issues, and litigates trademark opposition proceedings before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Ms. Pinto deals with a wide range of technologies, including surgical techniques, medical devices, surgical staplers, surgical staples, electrosurgical instruments, harmonic scalpels, and portable travel equipment.

Ms. Pinto's pro bono practice includes intellectual property counseling. Ms. Pinto is also active with the firm's Protection from Abuse Act ("PFA") Program where she helps clients in need of PFA orders.

## PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Prior to joining the firm, Ms. Pinto worked as an e-discovery attorney in Pittsburgh. During law school, Ms. Pinto interned with the Honorable Thomas I. Vanaskie for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit in Scranton, Pennsylvania. Ms. Pinto also worked as a legal research teaching assistant at Duquesne University School of Law, and worked as a patent engineering intern at IBM in Endicott, New York. Ms. Pinto also worked as a law clerk at an intellectual property boutique law firm in Pittsburgh. In addition, Ms. Pinto served on the executive board of the Duquesne Appellate Moot Court Board as the vice president.

## PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- Pennsylvania Bar Association

- Pittsburgh Intellectual Property Law Association
- Duquesne Law Alumni Association
- Mentor for Leadership Council on Legal Diversity (LCLD) Success in Law School Mentoring Program

## EDUCATION

- J.D., Duquesne University School of Law, 2015
- B.S., Pennsylvania State University, 2012 (*Biology*)

## ADMISSIONS

- Bar of Pennsylvania
- United States Patent and Trademark Office

## AREAS OF FOCUS

- IP Procurement and Portfolio Management

## INDUSTRIES

- Consumer Products
- Luxury Products and Fashion