



Sheila E. Tapia

Associate

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Profile

Sheila has diverse background in litigation, judicial practice and advocacy. Sheila's legal experience spans both private practice and the judiciary.

Prior to joining Bond, Sheila served as a judicial intern for Hon. Kenneth M. Karas in the Southern District of New York, where she assisted with judicial memos and observed federal courtroom proceedings. Her prior work with Avanzino & Moreno P.C. provided hands-on experience in personal injury litigation, from drafting motions to attending depositions and mediations.

Beyond her legal training, Sheila brings a unique perspective shaped by her career in the entertainment industry as a professional actor and producer. She has appeared in television and film, including collaborations with acclaimed directors and writers and has produced international theater projects addressing issues such as PTSD. This creative background informs her ability to connect with clients, craft persuasive arguments, and approach challenges with innovation.

Sheila is actively involved in professional associations, including the Puerto Rican Bar Association, New York State Bar Association, Westchester Women's Bar Association and NYS Academy of Trial Lawyers. She is also a certified Notary Public in New York. Fluent in Spanish and conversant in French, Sheila is committed to serving diverse communities with empathy and skill. Her volunteer work includes supporting Afghan refugees through the Afghan Resource Project, mentoring young lawyers in trial advocacy, and contributing to organizations such as New York Cares and the Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation.

Education

- Elisabeth Haub School of Law at Pace University (J.D., *magna cum laude*, 2025)
- Ohio University School of Theater (MFA, *magna cum laude*, 2003) (MFA, *magna cum laude*, 2003)
- University of Florida (B.S., 1998) (B.A., *magna cum laude*, 1998)
- University of Florida (B.S. 1998)

Bar/Court Admissions

- New York