

SILICON VALLEY BUSINESS JOURNAL

40 UNDER 40 CLASS OF 2021:

Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton's Mansi Shah

BY LYNN PEITHMAN STOCK
Interim Special Projects Editor

Mansi Shah is a trailblazer for women of color in the legal profession and among the technology companies she represents. She seeks to create a more inclusive environment, not just in the legal profession, but through her community work.

Accomplishments: Winning my first trial ever, in front of an immigration judge as a young associate, and helping my client, a transgender Mexican immigrant, maintain residence in the United States. Writing an op-ed, penned when I was representing the South Asian Bar Association of North America on improper race and religious references in criminal trial. Obtaining a complete defense verdict in a patent infringement case in the Eastern District of Texas that was highlighted by the Electronic Frontier Foundation.

Biggest accomplishment of the last year: Keeping my sanity through the pandemic with a toddler.

Biggest challenge in your lifetime: Gender bias is something you realize is a part of your reality as a woman. It can be difficult to put your finger on it at first because it is silent, pervasive and hard to overcome.

How has the pandemic changed your outlook on life and work? Balance requires presence in each moment, which means stepping away from computers and devices from time to time.

Hopes for biggest accomplishment in the next year: Rekindle and maintain friendships and connections that were lost or put on hold due to the pandemic. As a natural connector who favors in-person interaction, I look forward to this post-pandemic chapter (fingers crossed).

Advice you would give your younger self: Take time after college to serve, whether in America or abroad. It will give you better perspective for the rest of your career.



Mansi Shah, partner, Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton, and a 40 Under 40 award recipient, in front of the artwork "Wooster 4," by Ted Stamm, 1974, oil on canvas, on display at the San Jose Museum of Art.

A hot topic in your field: Software APIs and copyright after the Supreme Court's decision in Oracle v. Google.

Deal with stress: I put some music on my AirPods and dance while organizing and cleaning – no Cocomelon. This simple practice allows me to relax as I get work done.

Where you work now: I prefer to spend more time in the office. Initially due to the pandemic, but now out of convenience, I spend about a third of my time at home.

What you miss most about your office: The quiet.

Six-word memoir: Colors inside and outside the lines

40th birthday celebration: Forty days of reflection leading to the day through meditation and journaling, and visiting with and writing personal notes to people from my life who made me who I am today.

MANSI SHAH

Partner
Kilpatrick Townsend
& Stockton LLP

Age: 39

Hometown: Cerritos

Education: B.S.,
computer science,
University of California,
San Diego; J.D.,
George Washington
University Law
School

Company location:
Menlo Park

Industry: Legal