



Cara Mia Pinto

Of Counsel

Pittsburgh, PA

T: 412-227-2526

E: cpinto@mcneeslaw.com

Services and sector groups

- Intellectual Property
- Trademark
- Patents

Cara advises entrepreneurs, startups, and companies on trademark, patent, and broader intellectual property matters. She helps clients build, protect, and manage IP portfolios that support their brands, products, and business objectives.

Her trademark practice includes trademark clearance, selection, U.S. and international registration, portfolio expansion and maintenance, proper trademark use, opposition and cancellation proceedings, and enforcement. Cara also assists clients with monitoring unauthorized use, counterfeit product takedown requests, cease and desist letters, and settlement discussions. Her experience includes managing a global consumer product company's portfolio of more than 1,800 trademarks.

As a registered patent attorney, Cara prepares and prosecutes utility and design patent applications before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Her patent work experience includes surgical techniques and medical devices, such as surgical robots, stapling systems, electrosurgical instruments, suturing devices, and clip appliers. She also advises on invention harvesting, prior art analysis, patent portfolio due diligence, license agreements, claim strategy, and portfolio development.

Cara also counsels clients on related commercial agreements, including privacy policies, terms of use, service level agreements, sponsorship agreements, and sweepstakes and contest rules.

Cara serves as a mentor through the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity's Success in Law School Mentoring Program and as an Advisory Network Member for Penn State University's Propel Business New Venture & Innovation Program.

Representative experience

- Consumer product company: Managed trademark portfolio for a client that owns over 1,800 trademarks worldwide.
- Consumer product industries: Managed trademark portfolios for clients across a variety of industries, including the automobile and beverage industries.
- Fortune 100 company: Prepared claim strategies and expansion efforts as part of comprehensive patent portfolio management for a client.

Education

- Duquesne University School of Law, J.D., intellectual property
 - Duquesne Appellate Moot Court Board, vice president
- Pennsylvania State University, B.S., biology

Admissions

- Pennsylvania
- U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Recognition

- The Best Lawyers in America: Ones to Watch, 2025-2026
- Pennsylvania Super Lawyers, Rising Stars in Intellectual Property, 2022-2025

Professional and community involvement

- Pennsylvania Bar Association
- Pittsburgh Intellectual Property Law Association
- Duquesne Law Alumni Association
- Leadership Council Legal Diversity (LCLD) Success in Law School Mentoring Program, mentor
- Penn State University's Propel Business New Venture & Innovation Program, Advisory Network member