



Up & Coming Lawyers

SARAA BASARIA

Associate, Todd & Weld, Boston
Northeastern University School of Law, 2012



PHOTO PROVIDED

A litigator who loves to try cases, Saraa Basaria began her career as a public defender at the Committee for Public Counsel Services before joining Todd & Weld in 2017, where she concentrates her civil litigation practice on commercial disputes, employment law and personal injury matters.

In addition to her extensive bar association activities — in which she furthers her goal of uplifting and empowering other South Asians, both within the legal field and in the community overall — Basaria takes on pro bono cases for GLAD.

“Be mindful about taking moments to stop and reflect on what you have achieved.”

Q. What do you consider your biggest achievement as a lawyer to date?

A. I served two terms as president of the South Asian Bar Association of Greater Boston, while transitioning from a public interest criminal practice to a private civil litigation practice.

Q. What is the best piece of professional advice you ever received?

A. As a new lawyer, I was fortunate to meet experienced South Asian women attorneys who encouraged me to become involved in an affinity bar organization — the South Asian Bar Association of Greater Boston. My involvement in SABA GB has been invaluable. Through SABA GB, I expanded my network and fostered deep professional and personal connections in the SABA GB community and the Massachusetts legal community at large.

Q. Professionally, what keeps you up at night?

A. I often worry whether I have put my client in the best possible position to get what they are seeking, and whether I could have done more.

Q. What advice would you offer new law school graduates?

A. The first few months as a new lawyer can be overwhelming in many ways. As you cope with the transition from law school to the practice of law, and perhaps begin to second-guess yourself, be mindful about taking moments to stop and reflect on what you have achieved.

Q. What's the biggest mistake you've made professionally?

A. When I first began practicing law, I was timid about asking questions. However, I quickly learned that I often regret not asking a question, but rarely regret asking a question, regardless of the answer.

Q. What's one thing about you that might surprise people?

A. I am a fairly creative person and enjoy crafts, painting and photography. Unfortunately, interest does not always coincide with actual talent, and I am no exception to that rule.

Q. If you weren't a lawyer, what job would you have?

A. I would have been a professor. **MLW**

Past president of South Asian Bar Association of Greater Boston; trustee of South Asian Bar Association of North America Foundation, member of Grants Committee and co-chair of Outreach Committee; Massachusetts Bar Association's Young Lawyers Division Board of Directors, member of Education and Diversity Committees; fellow in MBA's Leadership Academy and appointed to MBA's 2018-2019 Diversity Task Force
