

Maryland's TOP 100 WOMEN

MARYLAND'S BUSINESS & LEGAL NEWS SINCE 1888

Sheela Murthy



President
Murthy Law Firm

Contact info:

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Education:

LLM, Master's in Law, Harvard Law School, 1987
LL.B, University Law College LL.B, India, 1985
Diploma, French Language, Alliance Francaise,
India, 1984
B.A., History Major and Political Science Minor,
Stella Maris College, India, 1982

Career History:

1994-Present: Founder & Managing Attorney,
Murthy Law Firm
1992-1994: Attorney, Shapiro and Olander
1989-1992: Attorney, Gordon, Feinblatt et al.
1987-1989: Attorney, White & Case, New York
1985-1986: French Teacher, Institute of Hotel
Management
1985-1986: French Teacher, Alliance Francaise

Corporate Board Seats Held:

Bar Association of Baltimore City
Board of Trustees of the American Immigration
Law Foundation
Board of Governors, Harvard University
Alumni Association for Maryland

Significant Accomplishment:

Professionally, my greatest accomplishment is the direct and immediate impact that I have had in thousands of lives and families every year in the work that we do. Working in immigration law gives me the opportunity to help people and families live, work and enjoy participating in the American Dream.

Example of Mentoring:

On a daily and weekly basis I mentor new and younger attorneys on substantive issues of immigration law. I also speak at various middle and high schools on career day about the legal profession, and what it means to be a successful minority woman in business and as a lawyer. I always tell people that in spite of three strikes of being a woman, a minority and an immigrant, I have viewed each of these as my strongest assets that have helped me to become successful beyond my wildest dreams!

Officer/Board Membership in Professional/Business/Trade Organizations:

2001-Present: National Membership Committee, American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA), and various other leadership positions over the years in the Washington, D.C. Chapter and the national organization of AILA
2003-2006: Board of Trustees, American Immigration Law Foundation
2001-2002: Board of Governors, Harvard Club of Maryland

Officer/Board Membership in Civic/Nonprofit Organizations:

2006-Present: Board of Directors, Girl Scouts of Central Maryland
2005-Present: Co-Chair, United Way Women's Leadership Council (Maryland)

Awards/Honors:

2006: Super Lawyer in Maryland in U.S. Immigration Law
2006: Special Leadership Award: YWCA Leadership in Law
2006: Recognized as the highest single donor to help struggling women and teenagers, Girl Scouts of Central Maryland
2006: Leadership in Law, American Desi magazine, Washington, D.C.
2005: Certificate of Appreciation for exemplary service as a volunteer member of Peer Review Committee for the Attorney Grievance Commission of Maryland, Md. Court of Appeals
2001: Forty under 40 Prominent Emerging Leaders, Baltimore Business Journal
1985: Jessup International Law Moot Court competition, several individual, national and international awards of the American Society of International Law
1985: Outstanding Young Person Award, Jaycees in Bangalore, India

Personal Accomplishment:

I consider as my personal accomplishment being a good mentor, teacher and role model for the younger generation. Even in my family, being Aunt Sheela I am viewed as loving and generous, but tough since I hold the younger generation to higher standards and expect them to constantly push themselves to the next level. I feel a sense of accomplishment and joy in helping others to grow and blossom as future leaders of our country.

Birthplace/Date:

India on October 12, 1961

Spouse:

Vasant Nayak

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