

John Zolton

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EDUCATION

The University of Akron School of Law, Akron, OH

Juris Doctor GPA: 3.35 / 4.00

May 2023

Activities and Honors: Akron Law Honors Scholar, Dean's List (2)

The University of Akron, Akron, OH

Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering: Tissues and Biomaterials with Co-Op May 2020
GPA: 3.55 / 4.00

Activities and Honors: Williams Honors Scholar, Dean's List (5), University of Akron Scholarship for Excellence, Honors Scholarship, Varsity Track and Field, 2015-2017

WORK EXPERIENCE

Skyward IT Solutions, Rockville, MD

Machine Learning Architect

Jan 2025 – Present

- Spearheaded transformation of the company's most-used chatbot into an agentic, tool-augmented LLM system using Model Context Protocol (MCP) and Autogen
- Architected and implemented Agent integrations with internal tools (Slack, Jira, Confluence, Linear) and advanced capabilities (SQL, vector search, code execution)
- Co-designed and launched internal tooling for subject matter experts to design, test, and refine agent and tools prompts, enabling scalable prompt engineering across teams
- Integrated LLM-powered code generation workflows into CMS agents, including live spreadsheet analysis and Python-first execution environments for end users
- Designed and built a contract procurement research agent with custom retrieval and task chaining logic, accelerating internal workflows by 3–5x
- Mentored new hires and interns on building production-grade agents and agentic workflows using LLMs and the MCP protocol

Socratic Sensei

Founder/Creator

Jan 2025 – Present

- Developing AI-powered study platform for law students using Next.js, tRPC, and LLMs
- Built spaced repetition system that automatically generates personalized issue-spotting essays based on students' knowledge gaps
- Implemented knowledge-grounded LLM architecture that anchors AI responses to students' course notes, eliminating hallucinations while providing Socratic guidance

Patense.ai

Founder/Creator

Jan 2024 – Aug 2024

- Developed Patense.ai using Next.js, tRPC, Prisma, Tailwind, and AWS Lambda to help patent lawyers analyze documents
- Built cloud and privacy-first local solutions utilizing LLMs, with 2X performance boost through vLLM implementation
- Increased search speed by 300% via prompt engineering and created scalable data processing with custom $O(n \log(n))$ algorithm searches.

McBee, Moore & Vanik IP, LLC, Frederick, MD

Patent Attorney

Aug 2023 – Jan 2025

- Secured patent protection for a variety of technologies.