

Kenneth Avena

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Experience

BlockSmith Consulting, LLC – Los Angeles, CA

Jan 2023 – Present

Software Engineer Consultant / Founder

- Software consulting company that collaborates closely with individuals and organizations to understand their unique vision, objectives, and areas of focus.
- Took ownership and launched two full-stack applications for clients using Nostr (decentralized protocol for social media clients) and the T3 stack (Next.js, Tailwind CSS, Typescript, tRPC, NextAuth.js, and Prisma).
- The Artificial Intelligence Trust Council is a decentralized social media client creating a transparent and source of trust through a new community-based trust network powered to enable users to understand which information can be trusted.
 - Built using Nostr and Next.js, the software utilizes blockchain technology to maintain a decentralized and secure method of information processing and transmitting.
 - Designed and implemented a more trustworthy and secure social media client in a \$231.1B industry that allows direct messaging using NIP 04, secure logins using NIP 07, interactive social network visuals with D3, stores application specific data with NIP-78, creates contact list and user nicknames with NIP-02, allows users to post, reply, and vote in accordance with community-based polling.
- Trademarktopia launched as a workable trademark solution that cuts out the need for in person client attorney information processing using the T3 web stack.
 - Increases user trademark filing by 50% through decreasing unnecessary attorney client interaction and providing comprehensive intake forms.
 - Increases trademark attorney filings by 20% by emailing intake forms from users to the attorney's inbox.
 - This increases relevant freelance trademark attorney's revenue by an estimated \$400,000 / yr. by decreasing the time spent consulting clients.
- Trademarktopia uses Stripe payment processing and nodemailer to accept user payments and send users and clients confirmation emails.

Systopia Labs – Vancouver, BC

March 2022 – Dec 2022

Full stack Developer

- Supported the development on the Telescope team, implementing a software that enables qualitative analysis by scaling human intuition to analyze thousands of documents.
- Implemented frontend design using Next.js, utilizing ReactForms and Yup packages for data collection and Stomp.js for backend migration.
- Spearheaded the design of our user authentication with bcryptjs password hashing and salt, JWT user tokenization, and database management for users.
 - Led our team to enter the collaborative space for qualitative analysis increasing researcher productivity by 33.2%.
 - Utilized custom SWR APIs to retrieve JSON data from MongoDB for user authentication.
 - Developed backend python scripts to push data onto RabbitMQ and then through Celery to store in our database.
- Managed the overall user collaboration design to mitigate merging issues with marked document and user read/write permissions for each document.

Education

The University of British Columbia – Vancouver, BC, Canada

2019 – 2023

Bachelor of Arts, Cognitive Systems

- Major GPA 3.9/4.0
- **Select Coursework:** Computer Systems, Software Construction, Software Algorithms, Functional Programming, Introduction to Artificial Intelligence.
- **Activities:** UBC Game development club (Game of Year award), Cognitive Systems Program Mentor (two consecutive years).

Skills/Interest

- **Languages:** English (Native), Spanish (B1)
- **Coding Languages:** TypeScript, JavaScript, Java, C++, C#, Python
- **Technologies:** T3, Nostr, Next.js, React, Vite, Jupyter Notebook, MongoDB, Amazon (S3, Amplify), TailwindCSS, GoogleCloud, Supabase, Stripe
- **Research:** HCI research for UI/UX design relating to qualitative analysis software, Environmental impacts of switching public government services to decentralized networks.
- **Other:** Soccer (played for D1 club team), Football (LA Rams), Reading (currently obsessed with history), Watching rowing