



### **MEMBER PROFILE QUESTIONS**

#### **INTRO :**

**Member Name :** Chris Sewrattan

**Year of Call :** 2012

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#### **QUESTIONS :**

##### **1- How did you get into criminal law?**

I took criminology in undergrad and thought criminal law was interesting and an efficient way of effecting change. Only one of those things was correct.

**2- What type of cases do you enjoy defending the most and why?**

Drug possession cases. They generate interesting Charter issues. Plus, constructive possession is difficult to prove.

**3- How did the practice of criminal law change you?**

I know the best OnRoutes and can reverse park anywhere.

**4- If there is one thing only you would like to see change in criminal law, what would it be?**

A full defence to a charge of failing to comply with bail should be that the underlying charge did not result in a finding of guilt.

**5- What advice would you give to your younger self when you first started practising criminal law?**

Fearless > Smart

**6- How do you deal with bad work days?**

Paul Genua once told me that you get two days. Two days to feel good about a win and two days to feel bad about a loss. Then you move on. I try to stick to that.

**7- What do you think of Zoom court?**

It's good for everything that doesn't count. Trials should be in person unless the defendant consents.

**8- Any embarrassing court story you're willing to share?**

I was doing an impaired trial and kept referring to the offence as impaired driving. I was in front of Justice Wolski. My client was charged with careless control of a motor vehicle while impaired. But I thought that was properly calling impaired driving. Through lots of yelling, I learned that there is a difference.

**9- Who is your role model/inspiration in criminal law?**

Craig Bottomley, because when I grow up I want to be Beaker from the Muppets. (I also want to be an excellent cross-examiner who is a great father)

**10- What's your favourite song?**

Fu-Gee-La by the Fugees

**11- How do you maintain work life balance and how do you deal with the stress of the job?**

I set hard cut offs and work within my allotted time. Becoming a father in 2020 made this easier because it was necessary. As for destressing, I talk daily with Trevin David and Sherif Foda. We are each other's sounding board. I also talk to my law partner/sister, Ashley Sewrattan.

**12- What is your biggest legal inspiration?**

This quote by Arundhati Roy stuck with me at a formative stage in my life:  
"Another world is not only possible, she is on her way. On a quiet day, I can hear her breathing."

**13- What do you do outside of the law?**

Chilling with my wife and baby. Before the pandemic I used to train in wrestling and brazilian ju-jitsu.

**14- What would your defence bar colleagues be surprised to learn about you?**

During the pandemic I have played an embarassing amount of NHL 21 (Xbox One). Add me up: LilWayneGoonsky