

MEMBER PROFILE QUESTIONS

<u>INTRO:</u>

Member Name: Myles Anevich

Year of Call: 2017

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QUESTIONS:

1- How did you get into criminal law?

I got into criminal law because I wanted to be a "constitutional lawyer". After watching the Sunday of the G20 protests and the horrendous police overreach I knew that I wanted to go to law school and put myself in a position to defend those who were the subject of police violence. Before that I wanted to be a historian or play bass professionally.

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

I currently do only appeals, and my favourite appeals are those that are "interesting". It does not really matter the specific area of criminal law, I just like those that have some aspect that makes it fun to spend days (if not weeks) obsessing over while drafting the factum and preparing for the hearing.

However, if I had to pick a specific area I have always had a soft-spot for *Charter* issues. I find it fun when its an "us" v "them" and the them have infringed my client's rights (and are therefore morally in the wrong).

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

I think I have simultaneously become more of a left-wing bleeding heart and more jaded at the same time. It is impossible to practice criminal defence without understanding how economic inequality acts as catalysts for criminal behaviour and be radicalized somewhat.

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

Bring back preliminary inquiries for offences with a maximum punishment of 10-years.

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

I wouldn't take my own advice, I talk so much I would probably tune myself out. I also think I took the right path for me. Articling with the Crown, doing an LLM, and then switiching to the defence (and then to only appeals) was the right path for my first 5 years of practice.

6- How do you deal with bad work days?

I have a great family that I love spending time with. I try not to let bad days ruin my time with them. Plus when work really sucks I try to make something new and different for dinner. I also really enjoy drinking beer and watching sports, and I complain non-stop when I am annoyed to everyone that will listen.

7- What do you think of Zoom court?

I prefer to be in person for things that actually matter, and I barely do remands. But I love not having to drive anywhere.

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

I am usually a mess during remands when I am appearing for someone else. Just watch 361 practice court once a month to see something embarrassing. I am however much more articulate when I am actually prepared to do something.

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

He was not a criminal lawyer, but Joseph Arvay was my inspiration for how I wanted to practice law. I also try to model my advocacy after Justice Davies (who taught me how to cross-examine) and Frank Addario (who is one of the best litigators I have ever seen).

10- What's your favourite song?

According to apple music its probably "All Too Well (10-minute version)" by Taylor Swift, however, when my wife is not in charge of the music my current favourite song is "Dustland" by the Killers and Bruce Springsteen.

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

I try to forget about work when I am with my family. I make dinner pretty much every night and try to exercise for about 30-minutes every day. Also I have an unhealthy obsession with baseball, and have been watching a ton of soccer lately.

12- What is your biggest legal inspiration?

I would like to live in a society where everyone is treated fairly and equally regardless of their race, ethnicity, or socio-economic situation.

13- What do you do outside of the law?

Spend time with my family. Read books. Exercise 30-minutes a day. Cook new recipes. Listen to hours and hours of sports podcasts.

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

I think I am a relatively laid back person most of the time.