



### **MEMBER PROFILE QUESTIONS**

#### **INTRO :**

**Member Name :** Lisa Carnelos

**Year of Call :** 1994

**Twitter Handle:** I'm not very good at it.

**LinkedIn Page:** I'm not very good at it.

#### **QUESTIONS :**

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

I articulated for Pat Ducharme and was very much inspired by him – furthermore, I couldn't bring myself to being the kind of lawyer that sat at a desk all day every day. Prior to Covid of course. During Covid, I adapted.

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

I like variety so there isn't any one type.

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

Criminal law has changed the way I view life. I have come to learn more about people, diversity and privilege. I believe that I have had many opportunities in life, unavailable to many others. I have also faced challenges that others haven't. So I am grateful – very grateful. And I'm hopefully more patient and understanding.

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

I would like to see criminal law get back to basics – the system that brought people to justice instead of one that has created hurdles to get there. Some changes are good and progressive and others are inefficient and unnecessary and only service to assist the State.

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

Trust your instincts and get some sleep.

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

A glass of red wine, a cuddle with my puppy, a chat with my loving, intelligent and supportive partner and well, probably another glass of wine.

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

It has its place and provided us much financial relief during Covid where many proceedings could continue. It provided access to justice when otherwise it couldn't take place. Zoom should continue to be made available and should continue to provide

easier access to justice when appropriate. I believe most trials should be conducted in person. However, I disagree with the notion that if witnesses are physically in Court they are less likely to attempt to deceive the Court. Most of us will never have a MATLOCK moment in Court when a witness breaks down and says, it was all a lie.

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

No not really....why would I do that ? lol

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

I have many, but at the top of my list are Marie Henein and Justice R. Pomerance.

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

Again, I have many of so many genres, I just don't know. But perhaps my fallback would be Tragically Hip's Wheat Kings.

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

I have not always been good at this. I became especially bad at this a year ago, and I let myself get to a bad place mentally and physically. I now have set significant boundaries and have created gaps in my schedule to permit me time away and peace from the demands of difficult clients and an often tiresome trial schedule.

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

To continue right down the path I am going but to continue to do it at a better work/life balance.

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

Golf, go to Aruba, break bread with friends and family, number and logic puzzles and now Wordle and Quordle.

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

That I don't care to be the centre of attention.