have been a dedicated criminal lawyer since I started law school frankly, as I could not imagine practising law, except as a criminal lawyer. I have been a member of the CLA since 2001 and a director now for the past two years. I believe very strongly in the inherent value of a strong private defence bar, and hold the opinion that the system only operates as well as it does because of the hard work and dedication of the small business owners who make up the defence bar. I will continue to represent the interests of the defence bar with the same dedication as I have over the past two years, and while my ability to balance all of my responsibilities has on occasion been less than perfect, I will continue to do everything I can to advance the position of the CLA and its members and to serve as a medium for information and communication with our members.