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DEFENCE BAR

MEMBER PROFILE QUESTIONS

INTRO :

Member Name : Ines Gavran

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QUESTIONS :

1- How did you get into criminal law?

I discovered criminal law in college where I undertook police foundation. I was always curious and fascinated by psychology of crime and complexity of the human behaviour. I discovered that criminal law was an area of law I naturally excelled at.

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

Sexual assaults, drug/firearm possession charges, impaired/over 80 and hopefully soon, murder charges. I enjoy detail oriented cases that require in-depth analysis of different pieces of evidence, how they fit together (or why they don't) and cases that require a



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strong execution of strategy. I also enjoy cross-examination using a psychological approach.

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

It made me build trust in my instinct, expanded my ability to be flexible and open minded. A major change I saw on myself is the development of the ability to be calm in a very stressful environment.

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

The requirement that an independent justice, other than the trial judge, make a determination on the misapprehension of bias application. It is illogical to me that a judge gets to self-analyse on bias when we know bias may exist on a subconscious level. In my view, very rarely will a judge admit their own bias as its admission may shake the judge's identity of self.



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

Forget everyone else and be yourself- that is what sets you apart. The joy is in the journey, not the destination. And: whoever said their success is due to “luck” is not telling the truth. Luck is the product of knowledge, experience, wisdom and instinct.

6- How do you deal with bad work days?

I accept them as part of the journey. To me, “bad” days are there to shape us into better advocates. If nothing forces you to analyse yourself or your choices, you cannot grow.

7- What do you think of Zoom court?

I encourage its use where appropriate (especially for usual court appearances!)



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

I mispronounced a word and attempted to correct myself three times but continued to mess it up. Awkward time back then. Now I embrace such situation. Who cares! The beauty is in imperfection!

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

My inspiration doesn't come from a particular person (anymore). It comes from my own need to influence and impact to the highest level of my ability. That is what drives me to work hard. However, I can be, at times, inspired by someone's work ethic. For example, I find Alan Gold's work ethic unparalleled and inspiring.

10- What's your favourite song?

Right now I thoroughly enjoy listening to 2Cello's live shows.



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

For starters, I don't compare my own work/life balance with someone else's. For me, work-life balance means doing what I love, work-wise, while incorporating personal quality time that makes me feel fulfilled in my soul. Not everything has to be quantified. Often, the balance comes from quality of the time spent, rather than quantity.

12- What is your biggest legal inspiration?

Envisioning myself changing the state of the law so that when I retire, I continue to make an impact on generations to come. I am still working on what that vision looks like but I know it will happen.

13- What do you do outside of the law?

Right now, I love spending time with my 12-day old daughter. I love to spend quality time with my partner, my family and my friends. Laughing daily is a must for me. I also work out a lot, take dancing classes, meditate, read various books and bike a lot (which to me, is a form of meditation). I enjoy travelling, socializing and actively working on my inner self.