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THE **CRIMINAL**
DEFENCE BAR

MEMBER PROFILE QUESTIONS

INTRO :

Member Name : Pierre Bonsu

QUESTIONS :

1- How did you get into criminal law?

I got into criminal law in order to help the underserved and unrepresented members of society. Often in our society, people facing criminal charges have trouble obtaining legal representation and the thought of innocent people being convicted has always bothered me. As such, I became a criminal lawyer with the hope of assisting such members of our society avoid being wrongfully convicted for lack of legal representation.

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

I enjoy defending cases where the client has faced tremendous odds in coming forward and has insisted on their innocence. It takes enormous conviction to be able to withstand



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outside pressure to stick to our belief in ourselves. After being exonerated, my clients often thank me, but I ask them to thank themselves for believing in themselves throughout.

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

I now wear suits.

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

The courts in Canada are meant to be open to the public. There is so much to learn by spending time in them. Ultimately, Judges determine who can sit and observe in a courtroom so you should be ready to explain that you are observing the court if asked. As well, court staff can also, at times, assist in letting you know which rooms you can observe.

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



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Although I've never seen a full episode, I do remember my older relatives watching Matlock. The intro always had Matlock with a smile on his face and he looked like he was having the time of his life as a criminal defence lawyer.

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

My clients are often a source of inspiration, and they often make me look on the bright side things. It's often said that laughter is the best medicine.

7- What do you do outside of the law?

I've always liked to travel.