



THE **VOICE** OF
THE **CRIMINAL**
DEFENCE BAR

MEMBER PROFILE QUESTIONS

INTRO :

Member Name : Ed Ducharme

QUESTIONS :

1- How did you get into criminal law?

As far back as I could remember, it's the only thing I ever wanted to do. Watching movies like the Client, the Lincoln Lawyer, A Time to Kill all inspired me; I love the idea of poking holes in the case of the State.

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

I enjoy defending Sexual Assault files. Very often, there is a different story than the one presented and I love doing a deep dive to find a motive to fabricate. Conversely, I love presenting that motive to a judge and following it up by saying that even if the judge doesn't find a motive, it still doesn't mean that the client is guilty.

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

I appreciate how lucky I am to be who I am every single day; my upbringing, my choices, etc. Prior to practicing, I often took my situation for granted.



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

Keep your mouth shut! Remember that everyone is always listening. Don't assume that your perspective is the right perspective even if you don't see a flaw in it. Understand that criticism is usually warranted and not done out of malice- it's not about you.

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

I have more than one. Rod Sellar for how he maintains work/life balance; Lydia Riva for her trial skills; Matt and Sal for how they manage a business and their own practices while teaching the next generation; Chris Hicks for the fact that he literally always has the answer to a question and he always finds time to explain it.

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

I do the best I can to keep my work at the office. I hate WFH. Home means home. Still figuring out how to deal with the stress.

7- What is your biggest legal inspiration?

Outside of law, I like to just hang out with my wife. Watching movies while cuddled up with a partner and puppy is really the best de-stresser.