MEMBER PROFILE QUESTIONS

INTRO :

Member Name : Savena Bhangal

Year of Call : 2022

Region/City : Brampton/Peel Region

QUESTIONS :

1- How did you get into criminal law?

My father has been a criminal defence lawyer in Peel Region for more than 30 years, so I was exposed to the profession from a very young age. During my summers, I would often attend court with him, and I quickly fell in love with the courtroom environment and the work. Watching him advocate for his clients inspired me to pursue criminal law myself.

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

Impaired driving and Over 80 cases are the ones I enjoy the most. They often involve complex legal and technical issues, which make them intellectually challenging. I enjoy

finding creative defences, identifying Charter issues, and developing strong trial strategies to achieve the best possible outcome for my clients.

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

Practising criminal law has taught me a great deal about compassion. Every client has a unique story and life circumstances that have brought them to where they are. I've learned the importance of listening without judgment and making sure people feel heard, respected, and supported throughout the legal process.

4- What advice would you give to your younger self when you first started

practising criminal law?

To be confident in myself and my abilities.

5- How do you deal with bad work days?

I come home and curl up with a good book or spend time with family and friends.

6- What do you think of Zoom court?

It's a love-hate relationship. I appreciate the convenience and efficiency that Zoom has brought to the justice system, especially for routine appearances. At the same time, I think we've lost some of the personal connections that naturally develop through face-to-face interactions in courthouse hallways and courtrooms.

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

My dad

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

I make a point of scheduling time away from work in advance, especially travel. Having trips planned gives me something to look forward to and helps ensure I actually take time to recharge. Maintaining that balance makes me a better lawyer for my clients.

9- What do you do outside of the law?

I enjoy travelling and experiencing new places and cultures. I also enjoy reading, staying active, and spending time with family and friends.