

Anatomy of a Trial: Keeping Your Cool in the Heat of Trial



In-Person



Webcast

Date: Thursday, June 5, 2025 | 8:30 am – 4:45 pm
Reception
Friday, June 6, 2025 | 8:30 am to 1:30 pm

Location: OBA Conference Centre
20 Toronto Street, 2nd Floor, Toronto

Program Chairs: **Brian Bangay**, Desjardins General Insurance Group Inc.
Lindsay Charles, McLeish Orlando LLP
Troy Lehman, Oatley Vigmond LLP
Katherine Di Tomaso, Stieber Berlach LLP

This program contains 1 Professionalism EDI Hours
This program contains 2 Professionalism Hours.
This program is eligible for up to 9 Substantive Hours.

The OBA has been approved as an Accredited Provider of Professionalism Content by The Law Society of Ontario.

Anatomy of a Trial is back by popular demand! Join our stellar faculty of Superior Court judges and experienced advocates as they engage in live demonstrations and a comprehensive examination of the best techniques for conducting a trial. Lawyers of all levels, from the new litigator to the seasoned veteran, will benefit from this practical and insightful program.

Don't miss out on this signature event! Register now to secure your spot.

DAY 1: JUNE 5, 2025

8:00 am **Registration and Coffee**

8:30 am **Opening Remarks**

PANEL: ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN TRIAL ADVOCACY (8:35 AM TO 9:35 AM)

8:35 am **Panel: Artificial Intelligence in Trial Advocacy**
The Honourable Peter D. Lauwers, Court of Appeal for Ontario
The Honourable Frederick L. Myers, Superior Court of Justice
The Honourable Jill Presser, Superior Court of Justice
Moderator: Brian Bangay, Desjardins General Insurance Group Inc.

MOTION TO EXCLUDE AI EVIDENCE (9:35 AM TO 10:00 AM)

Presiding Judge: **The Honourable Mark L. Edwards**, Regional Senior Judge for the Central East Region, Superior Court of Justice

9:35 am **Demonstrators:**
Brent J. Arnold, Gowling WLG
Darcy Romaine, Boland Romaine LLP

9:50 am **Debrief/Commentary:** **Robert Traves**, Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

MOTION TO EXCLUDE EVIDENCE OF PRIOR FIRE (10:00 AM TO 10:30 AM)

Presiding Judge: **The Honourable Mark L. Edwards**, Regional Senior Judge for the Central East Region, Superior Court of Justice

10:00 am **Demonstrators:**
Rasha El-Tawil, Siskinds LLP
Karyn Shapira, Karyn Shapira Professional Corporation

10:20 am **Debrief/Commentary:** **Robert Traves**, Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

BREAK (10:30 AM TO 10:45 AM)

10:30 am **Health Break**

OPENING STATEMENTS (10:45 AM TO 11:30 AM)

Presiding Judge: **The Honourable Mark L. Edwards**, Regional Senior Judge for the Central East Region, Superior Court of Justice

10:45 am **Opening Statement of the Plaintiff**
Demonstrator: **Michael Smitiuch**, Smitiuch Injury Law

11:00 am **Opening Statement of the Defendant**
Demonstrator: **Jacqueline L. King**, Levitt LLP

11:15 am **Debrief/Commentary:** **Chet Wydrzynski**, Whitelaw Twining

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PANEL: WHAT THE PROPOSED NEW RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE MEAN FOR YOUR PRACTICE AND TRIAL (11:30 AM TO 12:00 PM)

11:30 am **Panel: What the Proposed New Rules of Civil Procedure Mean for your Practice and Trial**
Barbara Legate, Legate Injury Lawyers
Kevin Henderson, Oatley Vigmond LLP
 Moderator: **Katherine Di Tomaso**, Stieber Berlach LLP

LUNCH BREAK (12:00 PM TO 1:00 PM)

12:00 pm **Networking Lunch**

KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY THE HONOURABLE MICHAEL H. TULLOCH, CHIEF JUSTICE OF ONTARIO (1:00 PM TO 1:30 PM)

1:00 pm **Keynote Address: The Honourable Michael H. Tulloch**, Chief Justice of Ontario

PLAINTIFFS' CASE (1:30 PM TO 2:30 PM)

Testimony of the Plaintiffs

Presiding Judge: **The Honourable Susan Woodley**, Superior Court of Justice

First Plaintiff (Theodore Morris): **Paul Torrie**, Global Resolutions

Second Plaintiff (Thea Morris): **Christine Fotopoulos**, Global Resolutions

1:30 pm **Examination of the First Plaintiff**
 Demonstrator: **Alfred Kwinter**, Singer Kwinter

1:40 pm **Cross-Examination of the First Plaintiff**
 Demonstrator: **William Jesseau**, Smockum Zarnett LLP

1:50 pm **Examination of the Second Plaintiff**
 Demonstrator: **Lara Fitzgerald-Husek**, Oatley Vigmond LLP

2:00 pm **Cross-Examination of the Second Plaintiff**
 Demonstrator: **Linda Matthews**, Matthews Abogado LLP

2:10 pm **Debrief/Commentary: Frank A. Benedetto**, Flaherty McCarthy LLP

BREAK (2:30 PM TO 2:45 PM)

2:30 pm **Health Break**

PLAINTIFFS' CASE CONTINUED (2:45 PM TO 4:15 PM)

Testimony of the Fire Marshal

Presiding Judge: **The Honourable Susan Woodley**, Superior Court of Justice

Fire Marshal: **Clive Hubbard**, Origin and Cause

2:45 pm **Examination of the Fire Marshal**
 Demonstrator: **Ryan Breedon**, Breedon Mor LLP

3:00 pm **Cross-Examination of the Fire Marshal**
 Demonstrator: **Charles Painter**, Dolden Wallace Folick LLP

3:15 pm **Debrief/Commentary: Robin Moodie**, Moodie Mair Walker LLP

Testimony of the Plaintiffs' Expert

Presiding Judge: **The Honourable Audrey P. Ramsay**, Superior Court of Justice

Expert: **Mazen Habash**, Origin and Cause

3:30 pm **Examination of the Plaintiffs' Expert**
 Demonstrator: **Brian Cameron**, Oatley Vigmond LLP

3:45 pm **Cross-Examination of the Plaintiffs' Expert**
 Demonstrator: **Jim Davidson**, Davidson Cahill Morrison LLP

4:00 pm **Debrief/Commentary: Geoff Adair**, Adair Litigation

DEFENCE CASE (4:15 PM 4:45 PM)

Testimony of the First Defence Expert

Presiding Judge: **The Honourable Audrey P. Ramsay**, Superior Court of Justice

Expert: **Katelynn Everett**, Point of Origin

4:15 pm **Examination of the First Defence Expert**
 Demonstrator: **Jean-Claude Rioux**, Flaherty McCarthy LLP

4:25 pm **Cross-Examination of the First Defence Expert**
 Demonstrator: **M. Steven Rastin**, Gluckstein LLP

4:35 pm **Debrief/Commentary: Geoff Adair**, Adair Litigation

4:45 pm **Questions & Answers**

4:55 pm **Day 1 Concludes. Reception to follow.**

DAY 2: JUNE 6, 2025

8:00 am **Registration and Coffee**

8:30 am **Opening Remarks**

PANEL: THE JURY CHARGE (8:35 AM TO 9:05 AM)

8:35 am **Panel: The Jury Charge**

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The Honourable Darla A. Wilson, Court of Appeal for Ontario

Chris Paliare, Paliare Roland Rosenberg Rothstein LLP

Moderator: Troy Lehman, Oatley Vigmond LLP

JURY CHARGE MEETING (9:05 AM TO 9:20 AM)

Presiding Judge: **The Honourable Darla A. Wilson**, Court of Appeal for Ontario

Demonstrators: **Ian Mair**, Moodie Mair Walker
Renée Vinett, Howie, Sacks and Henry LLP

Debrief/Commentary: **Chris Paliare**, Paliare Roland Rosenberg Rothstein LLP

DEFENCE CASE CONTINUED (9:20 AM TO 10:05 AM)

Presiding Judge: **The Honourable Eugenia Papageorgiou**, Superior Court of Justice

Adjuster: **Michael Martin**, Desjardins General Insurance Group Inc. / **Steve Keane**, Desjardins General Insurance Group Inc

9:20 am **Examination of the Adjuster**
Demonstrator: **Catherine Bruder**, Bruder Springstead LLP

9:35am **Cross-Examination of the Adjuster**
Demonstrator: **Brenda Hollingsworth**, Auger Hollingsworth Accident & Injury Lawyers

9:50 am Debrief/Commentary: **Heather J. Vaughan**, Benson Percival Brown LLP

BREAK (10:05 AM TO 10:20 AM)

10:05 am **Health Break**

KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY ASSOCIATE ATTORNEY GENERAL MICHAEL TIBOLLO (10:20 AM to 10:50 AM)

10:20 am **Keynote Address: Navigating the Intersection of Mental Health and the Judicial System**
The Honourable Michael A. Tibollo, Associate Attorney General of Ontario

NEURODIVERSITY AND INCLUSION (10:50 AM TO 11:20 AM)

10:50 am **Neurodiversity and Inclusion**
Tobi McEvenue, Autism Ontario

DEFENCE CONTINUED (11:20 AM TO 12:00 PM)

Testimony of the Second Defence Expert

Presiding Judge: **The Honourable Jamie K. Trimble**, Superior Court of Justice

Expert: **Jason D'Ornellas**, Roar Engineering

11:20 am **Examination of the Second Defence Expert**
Demonstrator: **Shanti Barclay**, Zarek Taylor Grossman Hanrahan LLP

11:35 am **Cross-Examination of the Second Defence Expert**
Demonstrator: **Deanna S. Gilbert**, Thomson Rogers LLP

11:50 am Debrief/Commentary: **D. Keith Smockum**, Smockum Zarnett LLP

BREAK (12:00 PM TO 12:15 PM)

12:00 pm **Health Break**

MOTION TO BE REMOVED FROM THE RECORD (12:15 PM TO 12:45 PM)

Presiding Judge: **The Honourable Jamie K. Trimble**, Superior Court of Justice

12:15 pm Demonstrators: **Yoni Silberman**, Bogoroch & Associates LLP
Ivan Luxenberg, Malach Fidler Sugar + Luxenberg LLP
Brendan Scott, Zuber & Company LLP

12:30 pm Debrief/Commentary: **Ian D. Kirby**, Beard Winter LLP

CLOSING STATEMENTS (12:45 PM TO 1:30 PM)

Closing Statements

Presiding Judge: **The Honourable Jamie K. Trimble**, Superior Court of Justice

12:45 pm **Closing Statement of the Defendant**
Demonstrator: **Barry Cox**, Boghosian + Allen LLP

1:00 pm **Closing Statement of the Plaintiff**
Demonstrator: **Peter Cho**, Smiutch Injury Law

1:15 pm Debrief/Commentary: **Ian D. Kirby**, Beard Winter LLP

1:25 pm **Polling the Jurors**

1:30 pm **Program Concludes**

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