

Anatomy of a Trial: Taking the Plunge into a Jury Trial



In-Person



Live Online

Date: Thursday, May 28, 2026 | 8:30 am – 4:45 pm
Reception
Friday, May 29, 2026 | 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: May 28, 2026

8:00 am **Registration and Coffee**

8:30 am **Opening Remarks**

WHAT SEPARATES GOOD LAWYERS FROM GREAT TRIAL TEAMS (8:35 AM TO 9:05 AM)

8:35 am **What Separates Good Lawyers from Great Trial Teams
The Culture That Turns Legal Talent into Team Performance**
Charlene Theodore, Theodore Advisory Partners

PRE-TRIAL INSURANCE ISSUE (9:05 AM TO 9:35 AM)

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

9:05 am Demonstrators:
Thomas J. Donnelly, Thomas Gold Pettingill LLP
Anthony Gatensby, Blaney McMurtry LLP

9:25 am Debrief/Commentary: **Sandi Smith**, Marta Wilson LLP

OPENING STATEMENTS (9:35 TO 10:30 AM)

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

9:35 am **Opening Statement of the Plaintiff**
Demonstrator: **Jaqueline King**, Levitt LLP

9:50 am **Opening Statement of the Defendant Occupier**
Demonstrator: **Jim Davidson**, Davidson Cahill Morrison LLP

10:05 am **Opening Statement of the Defendant Tavern**
Demonstrator: **Chet Wydrzynski**, DWF LLP

10:20 am Debrief/Commentary: **D. Keith Smockum**, Smockum Zarnett
LLP

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

10:30 am **Health and Networking Break**

PLAINTIFF LIABILITY WITNESS (10:45 AM TO 11:20AM)

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

Witness: **Maddison Wilson**, Oatley Vigmond LLP

10:45 am **Examination of Plaintiff Lay Witness**
Demonstrator: **Lara Fitzgerald Husek**, Oatley Vigmond LLP

11:00 am **Cross-Examination of Plaintiff Lay Witness**
Demonstrator: **Barry Cox**, Boghosian + Allen LLP

11:15 am Debrief/Commentary: **Robin Moodie**, Moodie Mair Walker

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TESTIMONY OF PLAINTIFF (11:20 AM TO 12:05 PM)

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

Witness: **Gus D'Amico**, Oatley Vigmond LLP

11:25 am **Examination of Plaintiff**
Demonstrator **Barbara Legate**, Legate Injury Lawyers

11:40 am **Cross-Examination of Plaintiff**
Demonstrator: **David Zuber**, Zuber & Company LLP

11:55 am Debrief/Commentary: **Ian Mair**, Moodie Mair Walker

LUNCH BREAK (12:05 PM TO 1:05 PM)

12:05 pm **Networking Lunch**

KEYNOTE ADDRESS (1:05 PM TO 1:45 PM)

1:05 pm **Keynote Address: A Life in Law**
Alfred Kwinter, Singer Kwinter

EXAMINATION OF TOXICOLOGY EXPERTS (1:45 TO 2:35)

Presiding Judge: **The Honourable Ria Tzimas**, Ontario Superior Court of Justice

1:45 pm **Examination of the Plaintiff Toxicologist (Dr. Karen Woodall**, Forensic Toxicologist)
Demonstrator: **Robert Bell**, Lerner LLP

1:55 pm **Cross-Examination of the Plaintiff Toxicologist (Dr. Karen Woodall**, Forensic Toxicologist)
Demonstrator: **Karim N. Hirani**, Zuber & Company LLP

2:05 pm **Examination of the Defendant Toxicologist (James Wigmore**, Forensic Toxicologist)
Demonstrator: **Karim N. Hirani**, Zuber & Company LLP

2:15 pm **Cross- Examination of the Defendant Toxicologist (James Wigmore**, Forensic Toxicologist)
Demonstrator: **Robert Bell**, Lerner LLP

2:25 pm Debrief/Commentary: **Geoff Adair**, Adair Litigation

BREAK (2:25 PM TO 2:40 PM)

2:35 pm **Health Break**

EXAMINATION OF SMART SERVE EXPERT (2:40 TO 3:30)

Presiding Judge: **The Honourable Ria Tzimas**, Ontario Superior Court of Justice

2:50 pm **Examination of the Smart Serve Expert (Christine Fotopoulos**, Global Resolutions Inc)
Demonstrator: **Brenda Hollingsworth**, Auger Hollingsworth Accident & Injury Lawyers

3:05 pm **Cross-Examination of the Smart Serve (Christine Fotopoulos**, Global Resolutions Inc)
Demonstrator: **David Zarek**, Zarek Taylor Grossman Hanrahan LLP

3:20 pm Debrief/Commentary: **Frank Benedetto**, Flaherty McCarthy LLP

MOTION TO LIMIT SCOPE OF PLAINTIFF'S EXPERT EVIDENCE (3:30 TO 4:00)

Presiding Judge: **The Honourable Phillip Sutherland**, Ontario Superior Court of Justice

3:30 pm Demonstrators: **Jean-Claude Rioux**, Flaherty McCarthy LLP
Rasha El-Tawil, Siskinds LLP

3:50 pm Debrief/Commentary: **Meghan Hull Jacquin**, Howie, Sacks & Henry LLP

EVIDENCE OF PLAINTIFF BIOMECHANICAL ENGINEER (4:00 TO 4:50)

Presiding Judge: **The Honourable Phillip Sutherland**, Ontario Superior Court of Justice

4:00 PM **Examination of the Biomechanical Engineer (Dr. Benjamin Elkin**, MEA Forensic)
Demonstrator: **Peter Cho**, Smitiuch Injury Law

4:20 pm **Cross-Examination of the Biomechanical Engineer (Dr. Benjamin Elkin**, MEA Forensic)

Demonstrator: **Richard Bogoroch**, Bogoroch & Associates LLP

4:40 pm Debrief/Commentary: **Sudevi Mukherjee-Gothi**, Pallett Valo LLP

4:50 pm **Questions & Answers**

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

DAY 2: May 29, 2026

8:00 am **Registration and Coffee**

8:30 am **Opening Remarks**

PANEL OR TALK: (8:35 AM TO 9:00 AM)

8:35 am **Panel or Talk: The Honourable Darla A. Wilson**, Court of Appeal for Ontario

EVIDENCE OF PLAINTIFF HUMAN FACTORS ENGINEER (9:00 to 9:40)

Presiding Judge: **The Honourable Stephen E. Firestone**, Superior Court of Justice, Regional Senior Judge for the Toronto Region

9:00 am **Examination of the Human Factors Engineer (Pamela Daddario, MEA Forensic)**
Demonstrator: **Jim Virtue**, Siskinds LLP

9:15am **Cross-Examination of the Human Factors Engineer (Pamela Daddario, MEA Forensic)**
Demonstrator: **William Jesseau**, Smockum Zarnett LLP

9:30 am Debrief/Commentary: **Moya Graham**, McCarthy Tétrault LLP

EVIDENCE OF DEFENDANT BARTENDER (9:40 to 10:20)

Presiding Judge: **The Honourable Stephen E. Firestone**, Superior Court of Justice, Regional Senior Judge for the Toronto Region

9:40 am **Examination of the Defendant Bartender (Amy Moodie)**
Demonstrator: **Darren Delaney**, Benson Percival

9:55 am **Cross-Examination of the Defendant Bartender (Amy Moodie)**
Demonstrator: **Deanna Gilbert**, Thomson Rogers LLP

10:10 am Debrief/Commentary: **Melissa Miller**, Howie, Sacks & Henry LLP

BREAK (10:20 AM TO 10:35 AM)

10:20 am **Health Break**

EVIDENCE OF DEFENDANT OCCUPIER (10:35 to 11:05)

Presiding Judge: **The Honourable Markus Koehnen**, Superior Court of Justice

10:35 am **Examination of the Defendant Occupier (Ivan Luxenberg, Malach Fidler Sugar + Luxenberg LLP)**
Demonstrator: **Robert Traves**, Traves Mediation & Arbitration Services Inc. & Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

10:45 am **Cross-Examination of the Defendant Occupier (Ivan Luxenberg, Malach Fidler Sugar + Luxenberg LLP)**
Demonstrator: **Shanti Barclay**, Zarek Taylor Grossman Hanrahan LLP

10:55 am Debrief/Commentary **Zain Naqi**, Lax O'Sullivan Lisus Gottlieb

EVIDENCE OF DEFENDANT ENGINEER (11:05 AM TO 11:45 AM)

Presiding Judge: **The Honourable Markus Koehnen**, Superior Court of Justice

11:05 am **Examination of the Defence Expert (Craig Wilkinson, MEA Forensic)**
Demonstrator: **Charles Painter**, Dolden Wallace Folick LLP

11:20 am **Cross-Examination of the Defence Expert (Craig Wilkinson, MEA Forensic)**
Demonstrator: **M. Steven Rastin**, Gluckstein LLP

11:35 am Debrief/Commentary: **Linda Matthews**, Matthews Abogado LLP

CLOSING STATEMENTS (11:45 to 12:40)

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

11:45 am **Closing Statement of Defendant Occupier**
Demonstrator: **Ian Kirby**, Beard Winter LLP

12:00 pm **Closing Statement of Defendant Tavern**
Demonstrator: **John Olah**, Beard Winter LLP

12:15 pm **Closing Statement of Plaintiff**
Demonstrator: **Brian Cameron**, Oatley Vigmond LLP

12:30 pm Debrief/Commentary: **Sarit Batner**, McCarthy Tétrault LLP

ISSUE DURING JURY DELIBERATION (12:40 pm to 1:00 pm)

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

12:40 pm Demonstrators: **Ryan Breedon**, Breedon Mor LLP
Stephen G. Ross, Rogers Partners LLP

12:50 pm Debrief/Commentary: **Sarit Batner**, McCarthy Tétrault LLP

AI PANEL (1:00 to 1:25)

1:00 pm **Jonathan Chen**, Lenczner Slaght LLP
John Olah, Beard Winter LLP

1:25 pm **Polling the Jurors**

1:30 pm **Program Concludes**

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