

COURTROOM TESTIMONY

A Practical Skills Workshop for Police and Other Law Enforcement Professionals

Your testimony can make or break a case.
Are you ready?

Testifying in Court can be very daunting. There is a lot riding on your performance. In one intensive day, you will get the knowledge and practical skills you need to meet this challenge head on.

Topics include:

- Preparing for your day in court – what you need to know to make the most of your testimony
- Understanding the role of the Crown and what they can and can't do for you
- Strategies for mastering the direct examination
- Expert tips from experienced defence counsel on what to expect on cross examination

Plus! Don't miss the afternoon **Courtroom Testimony Skills Workshop** where you will have a unique opportunity to hone your testimony skills.

Register today at:

osgoodepd.ca/policetestimony

Program Chair

Detective Kerry Watkins (retired)
Professor, Humber College

Date and Time

Thursday, February 27, 2020

Full Day:

9:00 a.m. – 4:45 p.m.

In person only

Morning Sessions:

9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

In person or Webcast

Online Replay: April 2, 2020
(morning sessions only)

Location

**Osgoode Professional
Development**

1 Dundas St. West, 26th Floor
Toronto, ON

Courtroom Testimony

A Practical Skills Workshop for Police and Other Law Enforcement Professionals

In this interactive *OsgoodePD* program, led by Detective Kerry Watkins, you will hear from an expert faculty of judges, Crown Attorneys and defence counsel on what it takes to prepare for and provide bullet-proof testimony in court.

In an information packed morning session, drill down on the essentials of how to prepare and give evidence in court. *[Morning session is available by webcast]*

In the afternoon, the Courtroom Testimony Skills Workshop will provide you with a unique opportunity to further hone your testimony skills. Working from a realistic criminal law fact scenario (which you will receive in advance of the program), you'll have the opportunity to practice giving evidence in direct examination and also be subject to a cross-examination.

Benefit from the individualized feedback of Crown Attorneys, defence counsel and judges with years of experience.

Space is strictly limited to ensure that each attendee receives the personal attention necessary to make the most of this extremely rare learning experience.

Both sessions will provide you with strategic insight and practical advice on how to maximize the quality and impact of your testimony.

Who Should Attend?

- Police (all officers and civilian members)
- Other Law Enforcement Professionals

Register today at:

osgoodepd.ca/policetestimony

Agenda

8:30 a.m.

Registration

9:00 a.m.

Welcome and Introduction from the Program Chair

Detective Kerry Watkins (retired)
Professor, Humber College

9:05 a.m.

What the Crown Attorney Can and Can't Do For You

Lisa Henderson

Counsel, Crown Law Office,
Ministry of the Attorney General (Ontario)

Understanding the relationship you have with the Crown is a key element of being fully prepared to testify in court. Failure to recognize the significance of that relationship and the obligations and limitations set upon the Crown can potentially jeopardize the effectiveness of your testimony. In this session, an experienced Crown Attorney will examine the roles of each party in the process. A general overview of the court system will also be provided.

10:00 a.m.

How to Prepare For Your Day In Court

Detective Kerry Watkins (retired)
Professor, Humber College

What do you need to do to ensure that you are adequately prepared to testify?

Gain an in-depth understanding from a senior police instructor on what steps to take immediately when you've been called to court. Topics include:

- What are effective police notes and how to review them
- How to best review the evidence (videos, photographs, business documents, witness statements, victim statements and any statements given by the accused)
- Performing a walk through of the investigation and answering all of the important questions:
 - Why did I do what I did?
 - Why did I do it *when* I did it?
 - What was my authority for doing so?
- Meeting with the Crown prior to the hearing to discuss the case and any potentially problematic issues.

10:45 a.m.

Refreshment Break

11:00 a.m.

How To Put Your Best Case Forward: Strategies for Succeeding on Direct and Surviving (and even winning) on Cross

Moderator:

Detective Kerry Watkins (retired)
Professor, Humber College

The Hon. Justice Lloyd Budzinski (retired)
Ontario Court of Justice

Lisa Henderson
Counsel, Crown Law Office,
Ministry of the Attorney General (Ontario)

Lori Anne Thomas

Thomas Defence

In this session, you will hear from all parties involved in the process as they discuss best practices in giving evidence during direct examination and on cross-examination. An experienced Crown Attorney will outline key strategies for providing effective testimony during direct examination. You will also hear from defence counsel as they pull back the curtain to reveal how to best anticipate and handle different types of scenarios you may encounter on cross examination. The session will close with a judge's perspective on how to maximize the impact of your testimony.

12:30 p.m.

Luncheon

1:30 p.m.

Courtroom Testimony Skills Workshop (Optional)

In this hands-on, intensive workshop, you will have a valuable opportunity to hone your testimony skills and benefit from personalized feedback from an experienced faculty of judges, Crown Attorneys and defence counsel. Using a **criminal case fact scenario**, you will break into small groups and participate in a hearing in which you will give evidence in direct examination and on cross-examination. Our expert faculty will provide you with feedback on a variety of topics, including:

- Effective communication techniques (word choice, composure, body language, etc.)
- Bad habits and how to avoid them

- Dealing with different types of defence counsel

You will leave with practical tips and strategies you can apply with confidence the next time you are required to testify in court.

NOTE: There will be a 15 minute break during this session.

4:45 p.m.

Program concludes

What Past Participants Have Said:

Workshop was useful to see different cross-examination strategies on same set of facts.

Detective Staff Sergeant Matt Watson
Ontario Provincial Police

Very good day. Lots of useful information. Excellent!

Jacques Lacroix
Investigator, Canada Revenue Agency –
Criminal Investigations Division

I found the instructors very informative and professional.

Percy Nicholas
Investigator, Criminal Investigations Section,
Canada Border Services Agency

Excellent speakers and guests, well designed and full of relevant material. Thank you!

Murray Martin
Investigator/Forensic Analyst, Ontario
Provincial Police – Technological Crime Unit

Very good content – all police officers need to know this information.

Sgt. Beverly Zaporozan
Forensic Identification Training, Canadian
Police College

Chair

Detective Kerry Watkins (retired)
Professor, Humber College

Faculty Includes

**The Hon. Justice
Lloyd Budzinski (retired)**
Ontario Court of Justice

Ruth McGuirl
Crown Counsel,
Public Prosecution Service of Canada

Paul Calarco
Barrister & Solicitor

Richard Stern
Barrister & Solicitor

Lisa Henderson
Counsel, Crown Law Office,
Ministry of the Attorney General
(Ontario)

Lori Anne Thomas
Thomas Defence

Detective Kerry Watkins (retired)
Professor, Humber College

“*Excellent program! It provides officers with a more well rounded perspective of our role in the courtroom.*”

Const. Ian Weir
Halton Regional Police Service

“*Very informative. I took away a lot of good points.*”

Linda Chen
Investigator, Canada Revenue Agency – Criminal Investigations Division

Investigators (non-criminal):

Please visit osgoodepd.ca/reginvestigations for information on our full day interactive testimony skills program designed for those involved in regulatory and other non-criminal investigations. The next offering of this workshop is scheduled for April 23, 2020.

You may also contact Stéphane McRoberts (Program Lawyer) for additional details:

Stéphane McRoberts, smcroberts@osgoode.yorku.ca or 647.999.5723

Registration Details

Fee per Delegate

Full Day: \$595 plus HST

Morning Session Only: \$325 plus HST

Fees include attendance, program materials and break refreshments.

Lunch will be provided to Full Day participants. Group discounts are available. Visit www.osgoodepd.ca/groupdiscounts for details. Please inquire about financial assistance.

Program Changes

We will make every effort to present the program as advertised, but it may be necessary to change the date, location, speakers or content with little or no notice. In the event of program cancellation, York University's and Osgoode Hall Law School's liability is limited to reimbursement of paid fees.

Cancellations and Substitutions

Substitution of registrants is permitted at any time. If you are unable to find a substitute, a full refund is available if a cancellation request is received in writing 14 days prior to the program date. If a cancellation request is made with less than 14 days notice, a \$75 administration fee will apply. No other refund is available.



OsgoodePD has been approved as an Accredited Provider of Professionalism Content by the LSO.



Eligible CPD/MCLE Hours: LSO (ON): 6h 40m CPD (6h 10m Substantive; 30m Professionalism)

OsgoodePD programs may be eligible for CPD/MCLE credits in other Canadian jurisdictions. To inquire about credit eligibility, please contact cpd@osgoode.yorku.ca



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Osgoode Professional Development



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