

# The Investigators' Guide to Testifying in Non-Criminal Legal Proceedings

*A Practical Skills Workshop*

Successful prosecutions can turn on the testimony of the investigation.

*Are you prepared?*

If you are involved in regulatory enforcement or otherwise giving investigation evidence, this program is essential.

Using a real-life regulatory scenario, you will practice and learn:

- How to effectively prepare and review the evidence
- Strategies for giving evidence clearly and “surviving” the cross-examination
- How to respond to the different strategies that counsel may employ

**PLUS!** You will get **individualized** feedback to ensure you can immediately put learned skills into practice.

Register today at:

[osgoodepd.ca/testimonyworkshop](http://osgoodepd.ca/testimonyworkshop)

## Program Chair

Luisa Ritacca  
Stockwoods LLP

## Date and Time

Wednesday, April 17, 2019  
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
In Person Only

## Location

Osgoode Professional  
Development  
1 Dundas St. West, 26th Floor  
Toronto, ON

*This learn-by-doing program will give you a unique opportunity to give oral evidence while being examined and cross-examined by experienced counsel.*

# The Investigators' Guide to Testifying in Non-Criminal Legal Proceedings

## *A Practical Skills Workshop*

If you're an investigator – whether inside or outside the regulatory context – you know that testifying in Court can be a daunting experience. The stakes are often high with a lot riding on your performance.

**Cases can turn on your testimony. You need to be prepared.**

**You need to know how to respond.** In this new intensive *OsgoodePD* skills workshop, you'll get the knowledge and practical skills you need to fully meet this challenge.

Developed by leading practitioners and investigators, this *OsgoodePD* program has been specifically designed for those who are called to testify in **non-criminal investigations**. Throughout the day, you will have the chance to hone your skills when being examined. Led by some of Canada's foremost instructors in advocacy skills training, you will get to 'testify' and receive individualized feedback in small-groups.

You'll walk away with practical tips and strategies that you can immediately put to use and an increased confidence when you are called upon to give oral evidence.

Space is **strictly limited** to ensure that each attendee receives the personal attention necessary to enhance the quality and impact of your learning experience.

## Who Should Attend?

All investigators in non-criminal (including regulatory) contexts

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## Agenda

*This is an experiential learning day that will begin with a plenary session that will provide you with the key strategies you need in order to maximize learning in the hands-on workshops. You will then spend majority of the day in a small group, where you will have numerous opportunities to practice the techniques discussed. Rounding out the program will be a plenary debrief with all participants and facilitators reflecting on lessons learned and a summary of learned techniques.*

**8:30 a.m.**

**Registration**

**9:00 a.m.**

### Making the Most of Your Testimony From the Beginning

**Luisa Ritacca**

Stockwoods LLP

You'll get a comprehensive overview of all the key steps that go into giving effective testimony. This will provide the necessary foundation you need for the remainder of the day.

- How to best review the evidence and prepare for court
- Practical tips for testifying including communication techniques: word choice, composure, body language, etc.
- Bad habits and how to avoid them
- Responding to various strategies of counsel when being examined or cross-examined

10:00 a.m.

## Review of the Case Scenario and Instructions for the Workshop

### Luisa Ritacca

Stockwoods LLP

You'll receive a sample case file based on a real-life regulatory scenario and specifically designed for the program. Ms. Ritacca will review the fact scenario along with the instructions for the workshop and discuss any questions you may have.

**NOTE:** To ensure that you get the most value out of the workshop, all participants should review the materials in advance. These will be emailed approximately 5-7 business days prior to the workshop.

10:30 a.m.

## Testimony Skills Workshop: Small Group Practice Sessions

### Facilitators:

#### Luisa Ritacca

Stockwoods LLP

#### Rebecca Durcan

Steinecke Maciura LeBlanc

#### Fredrick Schumann

Stockwoods LLP

#### Brennagh Smith

Litigation Section, Legal Services, City of Toronto

#### Emily Lawrence

Paliare Roland Rosenberg Rothstein LLP

#### Bernard LeBlanc

Steinecke Maciura LeBlanc

#### Melisse Willems

Registrar and Executive Director, College of Dietitians

It's time to apply the techniques you learned in the opening session! In this hands-on workshop, you'll have a rare opportunity to hone your testimony skills in a "no-stakes" environment. This is your chance to practice and experiment with different strategies that will be invaluable when you do have to testify.

Participants will break into small groups and engage in a mock hearing. You will give evidence in direct examination and on cross-examination. The evidence will be based on the fact scenario. You'll receive individualized feedback from experienced counsel on presentation; body language and other non-verbal aspects, to how your testimony holds up and how it can be improved.

### You will learn:

- How to properly use your notes
- Common questioning techniques designed to trick or fluster the witness
- How to take advantage of open-ended questions
- Communication technique to bolster your testimony
- How to ensure you meet your ethical obligations and maintain your professional reputation when testifying

**NOTE:** Two 15-min refreshment breaks and a 60-min lunch will be taken through the day.

4:00 p.m.

## Program Concludes

This new program follows *OsgoodePD's* highly successful **Courtroom Testimony: A Practical Skills Workshop for Police and Other Law Enforcement Professionals** program. Here's what participants said:

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

**Sgt. Beverly Zaporozan**  
Forensic Identification Training, Canadian Police College

*"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

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

**Linda Chen**  
Investigator, Canada Revenue Agency – Criminal Investigations Division

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

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

## Chair

**Luisa Ritacca**  
Stockwoods LLP

## Faculty

**Rebecca Durcan**  
Steinecke Maciura  
LeBlanc

**Emily Lawrence**  
Paliare Roland  
Rosenberg Rothstein LLP

**Bernard LeBlanc**  
Steinecke Maciura  
LeBlanc

**Luisa Ritacca**  
Stockwoods LLP

**Brennagh Smith**  
Litigation Section,  
Legal Services,  
City of Toronto

**Fredrick Schumann**  
Stockwoods LLP

**Melisse Willems**  
Registrar and Executive  
Director, College of  
Dietitians

## Want to learn more?

Participants may purchase the high-quality audio and video recording of *The Fundamentals of Police Testimony* (to be held March 22, 2019) at a special rate of \$199 plus HST.

Visit [osgoodepd.ca/policetestimony](http://osgoodepd.ca/policetestimony) for details.

## Registration Details

### Fee per Delegate

**\$599 plus HST**

Fees include attendance, program materials, lunch and break refreshments. Group discounts are available. Visit [www.osgoodepd.ca/group-discounts](http://www.osgoodepd.ca/group-discounts) 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 CPD (6h Substantive)



*OsgoodePD* programs may be eligible for CPD/MCLE credits in other Canadian and US jurisdictions. To inquire about credit eligibility, please contact [cpd@osgoode.yorku.ca](mailto:cpd@osgoode.yorku.ca)



[osgoodepd.ca](http://osgoodepd.ca)

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