

SANDRA MONARDO

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PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

I am a senior lawyer with 12 years of litigation experience handling commercial, civil, insurance defence, employment and estate matters.

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

May 2017 – Present

Goddard Gamage LLP, Toronto, *Senior Estates Lawyer*

- The firm has expertise in the fields of guardianship, capacity and power of attorney litigation, estate planning and trusts, Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) legal issues, and estate litigation
- Leading litigation matters from the initial consultation with the client to resolution through negotiation, mediation, or court proceedings

2011 – May 2017

McCague Borlack LLP, Toronto, *Senior Civil Litigation Associate*

- Independently carried legal matters from the initial consultation to resolution through negotiation or court ruling
- Main areas of practice: insurance defence (professional negligence), estates (will challenges, administrations, dependant's relief claims, attorney disputes), employment, contracts, breach of fiduciary duties
- Chaired the firm's Estates and Trusts Practice Group
- Provided mentoring and assistance to the firm's lawyers on estate issues that arise in their files

2007 – 2011

Affleck Greene McMurtry LLP, Toronto, *Civil Litigation Associate*

- Had independent carriage of legal files as well as assisted partners and senior counsel with matters
- Main Areas of practice: professional negligence (financial advisors, financial houses and lawyers), estates, contracts, breach of fiduciary duties, mortgages, fraud, construction, securities, shareholders, employment and debt recovery
- Drafted pleadings; conducted research and examinations for discovery; initiated, prepared for, argued and responded to motions; prepared for and attended mediations, pre-trial conferences and trials
- Conducted examinations-in-chief and cross-examinations and made legal and closing submissions for trials
- Oversaw Law Pro files for Harry McMurtry
- Contributed case analyses and digests to the firm's publications (*The Litigator* and the *Competition Law Year in Review*)

Oct. 2005 – November 2006
(maternity leave contract position)

Falconer Charney LLP, Toronto, *Litigation Associate*

- Had carriage of files in insurance defence, employment, personal injury and property damage
- Drafted pleadings, motion records and memoranda for pre-trial conferences and mediations

- Researched issues for a multi-million dollar securities class action; assisted with drafting a factum and fee approval documents
- Prepared for, argued and attended motions, discoveries, pre-trial conferences, trials and arbitrations and negotiated settlements
- Reported to clients on the status of their matters and to ensure their needs were being met

September to October 2005 **Holmested & Sutton LLP**, Toronto, *Trial Lawyer*

- Conducted research and examinations-in-chief for a three-week trial

2004 – 2005 **Superior Court of Justice**, Central West Region, Articles, *Law Clerk*

- Assisted 29 generalist judges in civil, family and criminal matters with research, writing memoranda of law and drafting judgments, opinions on the disposition of matters, and pre-hearing bench memoranda for motions, judicial review applications and appeals to the Divisional Court

September – December 2003 **Faculty of Law**, University of Windsor, Civil Procedure, *Teaching Assistant*

May – August 2003 **Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario**, Toronto, *Summer Student*

LANGUAGE SKILLS Elementary proficiency in Italian and French

MEMBERSHIPS Ontario Bar Association (CBA), Junior Trusts and Estates Practitioners, Advocates' Society, Canadian Italian Advocates Organization (Board Member)

ADDITIONAL EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE

August 2000 – May 2001 **Canadian Embassy**, Rome, Italy, Commercial and Economic Division, *Paid Intern*

EDUCATION

2005 Admitted to the Ontario Bar

2004 Bachelor of Laws, University of Windsor, Faculty of Law

- Graduated in the top 15 percent of my class

2000 Honours Bachelor of Arts, University of Toronto

- Majored in International Relations, minored in French and Italian

INTERESTS

- Physical fitness (completed a half marathon, triathlons, duathlons, summited Mount Kilimanjaro and Machu Picchu), travel (Europe, South/Central/North America, Africa, Dubai) and baking