

DEVRY SMITH FRANK *LLP*

Lawyers & Mediators



DAVID DERFEL

B.A.S, LL.B

Areas of Practice: Personal Injury, Commercial Litigation

David Derfel joined Devry Smith Frank *LLP* ('DSF') in our personal injury and commercial litigation groups. He was called to the Bar in Ontario in 2002 after completing law school at the University of Windsor. David also possesses an honours commerce degree from York University. David became a partner of the firm involved in many important decisions regarding the firm's litigation practice.

At DSF David gained knowledge and expertise in many areas of law including criminal defence, commercial litigation, insurance defence litigation, and corporate/commercial law. This broad exposure to many areas of law early in his career has enabled David to identify and address many of the issues that can arise in a personal injury claim that other lawyers may not. An accident, injury or illness can impact every aspect of one's life and David's experience with multiple practice areas distinguishes him from other lawyers who may only identify some of the issues.

For many years David's practice has been focused almost exclusively on plaintiff personal injury claims. Access to justice has always been important to David. The University of Windsor's Faculty of Law where David attended law school is focused on access to justice and it was a key consideration in where he went to law school and a large component of many of the courses he took. Facing multi-billion and multi-national insurance companies in defence of the individual is what drives David to excel in his practice. David believes that without access to justice advocates, those who are injured and disabled are left to fend for themselves before the insurmountable power of insurance companies. Following the important lessons, he learned when a law student, David focuses his efforts to even the playing field and brings to account those companies that deny and delay what is necessary to get his clients better, back on their feet, and fairly compensated. Without access to justice, there is no justice at all.

David has been a presenter on legal issues related to personal injury at conferences, in hospitals, and other professionals on matters such as chronic pain, the Insurance Act, how to structure large personal injury settlements, and how to access alternative funding before a claim settles. David has represented clients in jury and non-jury trials in the Superior Court of Justice and before administrative tribunals including the Financial Services Commission of Ontario and the CPP Appeals Tribunal. Having acted for clients at trial, David knows every aspect of a claim from the beginning to conclusion at trial.

David is a member of the Law Society of Ontario, the Ontario Trial Law Association, the American Association for Justice, and the Florida Justice Association.

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YEAR OF CALL: 2002

EDUCATION: York University,
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DSF is a dedicated group of legal professionals offering a broad range of legal services to our individual, business and corporate clients. We are the largest full service law firm in Toronto outside of the downtown core. We are driven by delivering value to our clients in all that we do.


INDEPENDENT MEMBER