



ABOUT US

Devry Smith Frank LLP has been providing legal advice to corporations, individuals and small businesses since 1964 and maintains a reputation for being approachable, professional and practical.

Our expertise spans industries as diverse as financial services, insurance, real estate and land development, professional services, technology, mining, and not for profits.

We have three locations to serve you: Toronto law offices are conveniently located in the Lawrence and Don Mills area at 95 Barber Greene Road, Suite 100; our Whitby offices are located in the heart of downtown Whitby at 209 Dundas Street East, Suite 401 and our Barrie office is located at 85 Bayfield Street, Suite 300, downtown Barrie. We have plenty of free parking at all of the locations.

We offer the specialized expertise you need, at a location convenient to you, without having to fight downtown traffic.



Devry Smith Frank LLP is honoured to be recognized by the *Globe and Mail* as a leading law firm to the mid-market and entrepreneurial sector.

DEVRY SMITH FRANK *LLP*

Lawyers & Mediators



OUR INSURANCE DEFENCE TEAM

George O. Frank, B.Math., LL.B. george.frank@devrylaw.ca – 416-446-5858

George was called to the Bar in 1982 and has practiced primarily in the area of civil litigation throughout his career. George has been certified by the Law Society of Upper Canada as a specialist in Civil Litigation, and has been approved as defence counsel by the Lawyers' Professional Indemnity Corporation. He has been an instructor of Civil Litigation at the Bar Admission Course in Toronto.

The focus of George's practice is insurance defence and related areas. George has experience dealing with claims arising in the context of automobile liability policies, homeowners policies, comprehensive general liability policies, excess and umbrella policies, fleet and garage policies and others. Claims which he has handled have involved a wide range of insurance issues, including coverage, tort, bodily injury, fire, theft, property, occupier's liability, products liability, fidelity and employee dishonesty, statutory accident benefits, and underinsured, uninsured and unidentified motorists. He has experience with complex personal injury issues, including fatalities, future income loss and future care claims, present value determinations, income tax gross ups, discount rates, structured settlements and claims of minors and other parties under a disability.

George has extensive experience with procedural and interlocutory matters, trials and arbitrations, and appeals of interlocutory and final orders at all levels of the courts including the Ontario Superior Court, Divisional Court and the Court of Appeal, as well as appeals before the Financial Services Commission and appeals of arbitration orders.

Accident benefits mediations and arbitrations in which George has been involved have dealt with virtually all aspects of accident benefits claims. He has been counsel at numerous arbitrations and appeals at the Financial Services Commission as well as private arbitrations with respect to priority disputes and loss transfers.

Charlie Fuhr, BSc (Hons), J.D charlie.fuhr@devrylaw.ca – 416-446-3304

As an insurance defence lawyer, Charlie borrows from his extensive experience acting on numerous complex matters including motor vehicle accidents, slip and falls, medical malpractice, (sexual) assaults, product liability, burn injuries, dog injuries, wrongful dismissals, disability benefits, and home insurance claims. He provides advice and assistance in presenting and responding to issues related to the value of a claim, including those related to what evidence is necessary, how it should be presented, and what other options are available, including the availability of statutory appraisal under the Insurance Act.

Charlie Fuhr joined Devry Smith Frank LLP ('DSF') as an associate lawyer in our commercial litigation, insurance defence, estate litigation and personal injury departments. He graduated with a BSc (Hons) and earned a double JD from the University of Windsor and the University of Detroit Mercy. He was called to the Bar in 2020.

Prior to DSF, Charlie worked for a boutique firm in Toronto practicing in the areas of personal injury, civil and commercial litigation. He has represented clients in matters before various courts and tribunals, including the License Appeal Tribunal, Small Claims Court, Superior Court of Ontario, and Court of Appeal for Ontario.

Outside of work, Charlie has a particular interest in boxing and was the 3x Provincial Champion and competed at the National level.

He is a member of the Law Society of Ontario.

Tijana Potkonjak, B.A. (Hons), M.A., J.D tijana.potkonjak@devrylaw.ca – 416-446-3580

As an insurance defence lawyer, Tijana Potkonjak's goal is to achieve a timely resolution of all claims with minimum expense and optimal outcome. She prides herself in adapting every aspect of defence services to fit her insurance clients' specific needs, from intake and assignment of claims files to scheduling, reporting, resolution of claims and billing. Her experience comes from dealing with claims arising in the context of automobile liability policies, homeowners policies, comprehensive general liability policies, excess and umbrella policies, fleet and garage policies and others. Tijana's representation of both commercial and individual clients has helped shape her tactical approach to insurance defence thereby maximizing a favourable outcome for her clients.

Tijana takes a particular interest in providing her clients with individual attention. Her client-centric approach and fluency in Serbian/French/Croatian have made her a respected and trusted advisor to her many clients. She values effective communication and while drafting strives for mathematical clarity by explaining calculations line by line along with the applicable assumptions. She has appeared as counsel in the Ontario Superior Court of Justice, Ontario Court of Justice, Small Claims Court, and various Provincial Tribunals, including the: Licence Appeal Tribunal, Human Rights Tribunal, and Landlord and Tenant Board.

Tijana Potkonjak joined Devry Smith Frank LLP ('DSF') in 2022 as an associate lawyer in our personal injury and insurance defence departments. She earned her B.A. (Hons) from York University and her M.A. from Concordia University and finally received her J.D. from the University of Ottawa. She was called to the Ontario Bar in 2018.

Prior to joining DSF, Tijana worked for multiple boutique firms across Ottawa and Toronto gaining valuable experience in various litigation matters like personal injury, motor vehicle accident (tort and accident benefits), medical malpractice, commercial disputes, long-term disability and more.

She speaks fluent French and Serbian/Croatian. She enjoys spending time with her partner and furry friends, exercising, and the outdoors.

Tijana is a member of the Law Society of Ontario.

DSF

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