Jim Lutz, KC - Senior Criminal Practitioner

Introduction

I am a senior criminal practitioner with 32 years at the Alberta bar and 140 reported decisions. I am fortunate to have appeared before the Supreme Court of Canada as well as numerous appeals at the Court of Appeal in Alberta. I have conducted trials in British Columbia, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba at various levels of Court.

Formal Education

High School Diploma – Graduated from Western Canada High School in 1983.

Bachelor of Arts in English Literature from Mount Allison University, Sackville, NB – graduated in 1987.

LLB(Hons) from the University of Wales, Aberystwyth

Summer Student at Cook Snowdon, Calgary, AB - 1987

Articling Student and Practicing Lawyer at Gillis Dartnell – 1991 to 1996

Partner at Dartnell Lutz - 1996 to current

Contribution to Administration of Justice

I have been on the Legal Aid Roster since 1992 and continually take these and numerous pro bono matters. In 2010, I received a Certificate of Recognition for Meritorious Service in the provision of quality legal services from the Legal Aid Society of Alberta.

I have served as Pro Bono Counsel for members charged with citations before the Law Society of Alberta.

I have presented for the Legal Education Society of Alberta in the areas of Criminal Law Practice points and Law and Practice Updates.

I have also served on the Criminal Practice Advisory Board at the Law Society of Alberta from 2004-2007.

I was a guest speaker at the Domestic Violence and Family Violence Seminar in March 2002.

I taught the Business Law Bar Admissions Course from 1997-1998.

I have also taught and lectured at the following:

- City of Calgary Fire Inspectors Training Course
- Calgary City Police Bail Hearing Presenting Officers Course
- University of Calgary "Fitness for Trial" with Anne Kirker,
 Q.C., Dr. George Duska Faculty of Medicine
- City of Calgary Police Service "Excellence in Testimony"
- City of Calgary Police Service Mock Trial Course
- The University of Calgary Faculty of Communication and Culture Law and Society.
- University of Calgary Faculty of Law Dispute Resolution
- University of Calgary Trial Advocacy
- University of Calgary Faculty of Law Strategic Planning Roundtable
- Mount Royal College/University Criminal Law
- Southern Alberta Institute of Technology Legal Assistants Training
- Canadian Bar Association Young Lawyers Subsection on Criminal Law and Advocacy

Contribution to the Community

I have coached minor soccer.

I have received the Alberta Centennial Medallion in Recognition for contribution to the Province.

- Volunteer Member Elbow Park Community Association
- Volunteer Ups and Downs Society of Calgary for children with Downs Syndrome

I have volunteered with Calgary Minor Basketball Association Calwest.

The Calgary Herald named me one of 20 Compelling Calgarians in 2006.

Contribution to the Legal Profession

I was first Elected as a Bencher of the Law Society of Alberta in 2018. In addition to hearings, I sit on the following Committees:

- Audit and Finance
- Appeals Committee
- Assurance Fund
- Conduct Committee
- Credential and Education
- Practice Review
- Trust Safety
- Legal Aid Nominating Committee
- Practice Foundation Task Force
- Vice chair of the Appeals Committee

I am past President of the Calgary Bar Association having served from 2010 to 2018 on the Executive:

- Drug Treatment Court Project
- Vice Chair Criminal Subsection Canadian Bar Association
- Canadian Bar Association Mentor
- Volunteer lawyer for both Calgary Legal Guidance and student Legal Assistance
- Provincial Court of Alberta Case Management Committee

I am an active Member of:

- The Calgary Bar Association
- The Criminal Defence Lawyers Association
- The Criminal Trial Lawyers Association