

OFFICES PROFILES – CRIMINAL LAW DIVISION

CROWN LAW OFFICE - CRIMINAL

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Positions available: 10**Website:** www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca**Application Deadline: July 14, 2006 with interviews beginning August 14, 2006****Additional Application Requirements:** No additional requirements.

If you would like to speak with a current articling student about their experience please contact:
(416) 326-4600

BRIEF OVERVIEW

The Crown Law Office – Criminal is the country's largest and busiest appellate office. Counsel in the Crown Law Office – Criminal have responsibility on behalf of the Crown for the preparation and argument of all appeals arising from prosecutions by indictment in Ontario under the *Criminal Code*. These appeals are argued before the Court of Appeal for Ontario in Toronto and before the Supreme Court of Canada in Ottawa. Well over half of the Office's work is devoted to criminal appeals. The Office also prosecutes a wide variety of cases at the trial level including prosecutions of those involved in the administration of justice, large scale frauds, and organized crime.

Counsel are responsible for all aspects of indictable appeals to the Ontario Court of Appeal and Supreme Court of Canada. This includes the submission of written and oral argument, ongoing contact with the trial offices, police, victims, defence counsel, and other interested parties.

Counsel are also responsible for prosecutions, often from the pre-charge advice stage to completion in either the Ontario Court of Justice or Superior Court of Justice.

Apart from litigation, counsel provide a series of specialized legal services to Crown Attorneys and police agencies throughout Ontario. These services cover a wide spectrum of areas including prerogative remedies, search warrants, wiretaps, extraditions, applications to obtain evidence abroad, and assistance to foreign jurisdictions.

The Office is located in downtown Toronto.

DESCRIPTION OF ARTICLING PROGRAM

Each articling student is assigned a principal. The principal's role is to monitor workload, provide feedback and guidance, and ensure that each student has a well-rounded articling experience. Articling students assist counsel in preparing for their upcoming trials or appeals. The extent of the assistance varies from file to file, but generally the students are expected to:

- Produce research memoranda for legal issues;
- Draft facta;
- Summarize evidence (transcripts or witness statements);
- Assist Crown counsel in court with his or her trial or appeal matters. The student who assists on a file is expected to attend the related judicial proceeding, be it a trial or appeal. The student is also invited to attend all other related meetings, which would include witness interviews, judicial pre-trials or other resolution discussions;
- Attend all in-house education conferences. The office puts on a number of criminal educational seminars throughout the year. Some of these are aimed at Counsel, but students are welcome to attend, while some are created just for the benefit of the students.

The demanding nature of the caseload requires that counsel entrust articling students with significant and varied responsibilities involving every aspect of case preparation. It is expected that by the end of the articling year, each student will have acquired the skills and training necessary to work as a lawyer in the Office, elsewhere in the Ontario Crown Attorney system, in other provincial ministries, as defence counsel, or elsewhere in the justice system. The Crown Law Office - Criminal is committed to providing its students with the best articles in criminal law in Canada.
