

Partner

Megan Shortreed

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Megan Shortreed is senior counsel with deep experience in corporate, commercial, employment, civil and estates litigation, as well as professional regulation. She argues cases involving shareholder and partnership disputes, duties of directors and employees, trusts and estates, product liability and other complex commercial cases. She acts often on behalf of senior executives respecting their compensation, employment contracts or termination from employment, and on behalf of employers, employees and complainants in respect of sensitive workplace investigations. She also acts as an independent investigator and adjudicator. Megan has extensive hearings experience before professional disciplinary tribunals.

In 2014, Megan became the inaugural recipient of Honsberger Award, the Toronto Lawyers Association award in recognition of ongoing contributions to the legal community and the community at large. In 2020, she was named to *Benchmark's* Top 50 Women in Litigation in Canada and in 2021, she was named Health Law Litigator of the year by *Benchmark Canada*.

A devoted mentor and educator, Megan participates regularly as a panelist and instructor at law schools and professional CLE programs. Megan is a Bencher (director) of the Law

Paliare Roland

Society of Ontario and was an adjudicator in the Hearing and Appeals Divisions of the Law Society Tribunal from 2019 to 2021. She is a former director of the Law Society Foundation, The Advocates' Society, and former Chair of the Homes First Foundation.

Education

Dalhousie University, LL.B., 1995

Queen's University, B.Sc. (Hons.) Chemistry, 1992

Certificate, Effective Adjudication, Society of Adjudicators and Regulators, 2019

Bar Admissions

Ontario, 1997

Professional Affiliations

Fellow, Litigation Counsel of America

Bencher, Law Society of Ontario (2019 to present)

Director, Law Society Foundation (2019 to 2023)

Editorial Board, Commercial Litigation and Arbitration Review (2012 to present)

The Advocates' Society - Board of Directors (2014 - 2018)

The Advocates' Society

Toronto Lawyers' Association

Ontario Bar Association

Women's Law Association of Ontario

Practice Areas

Appeals and Judicial Review

Human Rights

Commercial Litigation

Infrastructure and P3

Employment Law

Product Liability and Tort Claims

Estates and Trusts

Professional Discipline and Regulation

Healthcare

Public and Administrative Law

Awards and Honours

Lexpert Special Edition on Litigation - Recognized as a leader in Litigation - Corporate Commercial - 2023

Best Lawyers in Canada 2024 - Corporate and Commercial Litigation (Since 2014), Health Care Law, Labour and Employment Law, Trusts and Estates

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Benchmark Litigation - Top 100 Women in Canadian Litigation - 2023

The Advocates' Society Excellence in Teaching Award - 2023

Benchmark Litigation - Top 100 Women in Canadian Litigation, Litigation Star - 2022

Benchmark Litigation Canada - Health Law / Medical Litigator of the Year - 2021

Chambers Canada - Litigation: General Commercial - Ontario

Benchmark Litigation - Top 50 Women in Litigation in Canada, Litigation Star - 2020

Lexpert/American Lawyer - Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada - 2019

Globe and Mail's Lexpert/Report on Business Magazine - Leading Litigation Lawyer - 2018, 2019

Lexpert Zenith Award - Celebrating women in the legal profession - 2017

Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory - Consistently Recommended - Litigation - Corporate Commercial - Since 2015

Best Lawyers in Canada - Corporate and Commercial Litigation - Since 2014

Benchmark Litigation Canada - Guide to Canada's Leading Litigation Firms and Attorneys - Litigation Star for General Commercial Litigation - Since 2014

Honsberger Award - Presented by the Toronto Lawyers Association in recognition of ongoing contributions to the legal community and the community at large - Inaugural recipient - 2014

Representative Work

Selection of representative reported cases:

Brewer v. Royal College of Dental Surgeons of Ontario, 2021 ONSC 5697

Magnotta Winery Corporation v. Ontario (The Alcohol and Gaming Commission), 2020 ONSC 561

Berg v. Jaylevy Limited, 2019 ONSC 2255

College of Nurses of Ontario v. Wettlaufer, 2017 CanLII 77173

1217174 Ontario Ltd. v. 141608 Canada Inc., 2017 ONSC 7698

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Maple Bank GmbH (Re), 2017 ONSC 2536

Neuberger v. York, 2016 ONCA 191

UPS Supply Chain Solutions, Inc. v. Honeywell et al., 2015 ONSC 1734

Sanofi Pasteur Ltd. v. Honeywell et al., 2015 ONCA 88

Nortel Networks Corporation (Re), 2015 ONSC 2987

Chuang v. Toyota Canada Inc., 2013 ONSC 3235

Plourde (Re), 2012 CanLII 66779 (ON OCCO)

Sazant v. R.M. and C.I.C.B., 2010 ONSC 4273 (CanLII)

Capobianco v. Paige, 2009 CanLII 29899 (Ont. S.C.J.)

Hooper v. College of Nurses of Ontario (2006), 81 OR (3d) 296 (Ont. Div. Ct.)

Congrégation des témoins de Jéhovah de St-Jérôme-Lafontaine v. Lafontaine (Village), [2004] 2 S.C.R. 650

Lederer v. 372116 Ontario Limited (2001), 53 OR (3d) 203 (Ont. CA)

Filion v. Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (2000), 49 OR (3d) 364 (Ont. S.C.J.)

Francis v. Baker, [1999] 3 S.C.R. 250

Community Involvement

Bencher, Law Society of Ontario – Current

Director, Law Society Foundation – Current

Active in legal education and mentoring young lawyers

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Participates regularly as panelist and instructor at law schools and professional CLE programs

Former board member – the Advocates' Society

Former co-chair of the Law Society's *Justicia Project* for the retention of women in private practice

Served for ten years as Chair of the Board of Directors for the Homes First Foundation – a charitable organization which raises funds to break the cycle of homelessness in Toronto. Homes First operates 16 shelter and housing sites in Toronto. Paliare Roland is a major supporter of several worthy charities including Home First

Publications

Disposition without Trial: A Review of the Application of Ontario's Rule 20 and 21 – Annual Review of Civil Litigation 2001, T. Archibald and M. Cochrane, eds. (Toronto: Carswell, 2002), pp. 69-81. (with Linda Rothstein)

Book Review – *Sexual Harassment: A Guide for Understanding and Prevention* by Arjun P. Aggarwal – 3 *Dal. J. Leg. Stud* – 1994

Various chemistry papers and posters, including publications in *Inorganic Chemistry* and *Z. Naturforsch, A: Phys. Sci.*

Presentations

Speaker – Parental Leave and Practicing Law: How are Lawyers Making it Work? – Toronto Lawyers' Association – March 9, 2022

Panelist – Bencher Election Series! What is a Bencher? – Women's Law Association of Ontario – February 17, 2022

Speaker – “Controlling the Difficult Witness” at Examinations for Discovery: Block Two: Discovery Questions and Techniques – The Advocates' Society – November 16, 2021

Speaker – The New Anti-Money Laundering Requirements: What You Need to Know Before January 1, 2022 – Law Society of Ontario – November 12, 2021

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Panelist – Will Challenge Series – Mastering the Trial – Ontario Bar Association – August 17, 2021

Trainer – Advocacy Skills Training Series for Members of Roundtable of Diversity Associations – RODA and The Advocates' Society – March 6, 2021

Featured Speaker – Arguing the Facts and Law in Your Factum, 24th Annual Course on Written Advocacy – Joint Program of The Advocates' Society and Osgoode Professional Development – November 2020 (replayed in 2021)

Mentor – Advocacy Skills Training Series for Members of Roundtable of Diversity Associations – RODA and The Advocates' Society – October 19, 2020

Speaker – “Mediations”, Litigating An Employment File, The Essential Course – Ontario Bar Association – October 14, 2020

Co-Chair – Privilege: A Litigator's Guide – The Advocates' Society – June 16, 2020

Trainer – *Advocacy Skills Training Series for Members of Roundtable of Diversity Associations* – Roundtable of Diversity Associations (RODA) and the Advocates' Society – May 9, 2020

Speaker – *Principles of Civility for Advocates* – The Advocates' Society – April 29, 2020

Mentor – *Advocacy Skills Training Series for Members of Roundtable of Diversity Associations* – RODA and the Advocates' Society – February 11, 2020

Panelist – *Opening Town Hall, Advocacy Skills Training Series for Members of Roundtable of Diversity Associations* – RODA and the Advocates' Society – November 18, 2019

Speaker – *Employer Liability for Sexual Harassment and Assault* – Sexual Misconduct in the #MeToo Era – Osgoode PD – February 7, 2019

Speaker – *Marshalling the Evidence and Framing the Theory of Your Case* – Conducting a Dependant Support Trial – The Advocates' Society – October 29, 2018

Featured Speaker – *Arguing the Law in Your Factum* – 22nd Annual Course on Written Advocacy – Joint Program of the Advocates' Society and Osgoode Professional Development – October 26, 2018

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Co-Chair – *Employment Litigation Advocacy* – The Advocates’ Society – September 21, 2018

Speaker – *Administrative Tribunal Advocacy* – The Advocates’ Society – March 22, 2018

Co-Chair – *Health Law Litigation* – The Advocates’ Society – November 13, 2017

Mentor – *Women in Litigation Symposium* – The Advocates’ Society – October 27, 2017

Speaker – *Supreme Court Advocacy* – The Advocates’ Society – October 20, 2017

Faculty – *Train the Trainor* – The Advocates’ Society – September 15, 2017

Guest Instructor and Team Leader – *Intensive Trial Program* – Osgoode Hall Law School – 2006-2017

Speaker – *Good Faith in Contractual Performance in Commercial Cases* – Spring Symposium – The Advocates’ Society – April 27, 2017

Co-Chair – *Fall Convention Education Program* – The Advocates’ Society – November 11-12, 2016

Panelist and Mentor- *Fall Forum* – The Advocates’ Society – October 21-22, 2016

Speaker – *Waiver of Privilege – Understanding and Utilizing Solicitor-Client and Litigation Privilege* – The Advocates’ Society – July 19, 2016

Co-Chair – *Fall Convention Education Program* – The Advocates’ Society – November 13-14, 2015

Co-Chair – *Mastering Winning Discovery Techniques* – The Advocates’ Society – October 29, 2015

Speaker – *6th Biennial Women in Litigation Symposium* – The Advocates’ Society – October 23, 2015

Visiting Faculty – *Intensive Trial Advocacy Program* – University of Notre Dame Law School – 2013 and 2015

Speaker – *Shining a Spotlight on Arbitrators and Mediators* – The Advocates’ Society –

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April 14, 2015

Speaker – *Administrative Tribunal Advocacy* – The Advocates' Society – March 24, 2015

Speaker – *Toronto Courthouse Series: Challenging Credibility* – The Advocates' Society – February 11, 2015

Panelist – *Advocacy Before Regulatory Tribunals* – Fall Convention – The Advocates' Society – November 7, 2014

Mentor – *Fall Forum 2014* – The Advocates' Society – October 25, 2014

Panelist – *Establishing Your Reputation in the Courtroom – Fall Forum 2014: Profile Building with a Purpose* – The Advocates' Society – October 24, 2014

Co-Chair – *Mastering Winning Discovery Techniques* – The Advocates' Society – October 7, 2014

Panelist – *Crucial Issues in College Investigations* – Osgoode Certificate in the Regulations and Discipline of the Health Care Sector – June 4, 2014

Workshop Facilitator – *Developing Your Skills to Become a Leader* – Justicia Symposium – Law Society of Upper Canada – May 28, 2014

Mentor – *Built to Last* – Mentoring Dinner Series – The Advocates' Society – May 22, 2014

Panelist – *Designing the Best Procedure for your Case* – Effective Litigation – Getting Things Done – Law Society of Upper Canada – April 4, 2014

Co-Chair – *Leading Your Case: Opening Statements and Examination-in-chief* – The Advocates' Society – December 10, 2013

Speaker – *Issue Estoppel in Administrative Decisions—Penner and Other Recent Developments* – 9th Annual National Forum on Administrative Law and Practice – Osgoode Hall Law School – October 23, 2013

Mentor – *Women in Litigation Conference* – The Advocates' Society – October 18, 2013

Speaker – *Strategies for Effective Advocacy Representing Employees* – Six-Minute Employment Lawyer – Law Society of Upper Canada – June 15, 2013

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Mentor – *Speed Mentoring* – Young Women in Law – June 13, 2013

Speaker – *Cross-examination and Impeachment Techniques* – The Advocates' Society – March 26, 2013

Speaker – *Pointed Evidence* – 2013 Court House Series – The Advocates' Society – February 14, 2013

Speaker – *Examinations, Interviews and Inquiries* – Osgoode Short Course on Prosecuting and Defending Professional Discipline Cases – January 30, 2013

Instructor – *Evidence for Litigators* – The Advocates' Society – November 6, 2012

Speaker and Workshop Instructor – *Mastering Winning Discovery Techniques* – The Advocates' Society – October 30, 2012

Speaker – *Professionalism and Ethics in Administrative Advocacy* – 7th Annual National Forum on Administrative Law & Practice – Osgoode Hall Law School – October 23-24, 2012

Mentor – *Speed Mentoring* – Young Women in Law – June 13, 2012

Speaker – *Two Years Plus into the New Rules – Reflections and Suggestions* – Civil Litigation Summit – Law Society of Upper Canada – May 22, 2012

Instructor – *Mastering Winning Discovery Techniques* – The Advocates' Society – October 6, 2011

Mentor – *Confidence in the Courtroom and Creating Support Systems* – Fourth Biennial Women in Litigation Conference – The Advocates' Society – October 14, 2011

Mentor – *Building Trusted Client Relationships* – Mentoring Dinner Series – The Advocates' Society – April 7, 2011

Instructor – *Civil Litigation Skills Certificate Program: Trial from A to Z* – The Advocates' Society – April 7, 2011

Panelist – *Examinations, Interviews and Inquiries* – Osgoode Short Course on Prosecuting and Defending Professional Discipline Cases – February 16, 2011

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Speaker – *Preparing Effective Pleadings* – Preparing Winning Court Documents – The Advocates' Society program – February 25, 2009, February 23, 2010, February 15, 2011

Instructor – *Writing for Litigators* – CBA Skilled Lawyer Series – November 9, 2010

Panelist – *Meeting the Challenges of the Current Economy* – Law Society of Upper Canada – June 18, 2010

Panelist – *The Law Society's Retention of Women Project – One Year Review* – Feminist Legal Analysis Section of the Ontario Bar Association – June 3, 2010

Speaker – *Drafting Effective Materials* – Law Society of Upper Canada's program Pre-Trial Motions for Counsel New to Civil Litigation – April 28, 2010

Instructor – *Do a Trial!* – The Advocates' Society Civil Litigation Skills Certificate Program – March 27, 2010

Instructor – *Cross-examination: Winning Techniques Used by Skilled Cross-examiners* – The Advocates' Society – March 4, 2010

Instructor – *The Critical Motion: Adding a Key Party After Expiry of the Limitation Period* – The Advocates' Society Toronto Court House Series: Tackling the Tough Case – February 11, 2010

Panel Chair and Speaker – *Amendments to the Rules of Civil Procedure* – The Advocates' Society Fall Convention – November 14, 2009

Instructor – *Cross-Examination* – Board Member Training – Health Professions Appeal and Review Board – September 29, 2009

Instructor – *Pre-Hearings* – Discipline Committee Training – College of Nurses of Ontario – September 17, 2009

Instructor – *Do a Trial!* – The Advocates' Society Civil Litigation Skills Certificate Program – April 4, 2009

Speaker – *Stays Pending Arbitration Proceedings* – Commercial List Users Committee/OBA Insolvency Law Section/OAIRP Educational Program – June 10, 2008

Instructor – *Discovery Strategies and Techniques* – The Advocates' Society – February 19,

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2008

Speaker – *Written Expert Reports* – Vantage Professional Development's Expert Witness Training Seminar – November 29, 2007

Co-Chair – *Junior Counsel Series: ReAct Like a Pro* – The Advocates' Society – October 25, 2007

Speaker – *Motions Materials* – Law Society of Upper Canada's New Lawyer Practice Series – Civil Litigation – October 10, 2007

Faculty – *Intensive Motion Drafting Workshop* – Osgoode Hall Law School – September 27 and 28, 2007

Speaker – *10 Tips for Preparing for Motions Court* – The Advocates' Society Junior Counsel Series: ReAct Like a Pro! – January 11, 2007

Co-Chair – *Civil Motions Workshop 2006* – The Advocates' Society – November 4, 2006

Program Organizer and Speaker – *Cross-examination in a Nutshell* – The Advocates' Society – April 27, 2006

Conversation Leader – *Litigating for a Lifetime: Making it Work, Making it Worthwhile* – The Advocates' Society, Women Advocates Networking Series – April 5, 2006

Panelist and Workshop Faculty – *Effective Discoveries – Controlling the Process and Getting the Facts* – The Advocates' Society – Civil Litigation Skills Certificate Program – March 29, 2005

Presentation – *Recent Developments in Professional Regulation* – Infonex Conference on Professional Regulation and Discipline: Effective Ways to Ensure the Accountability and Impartiality of Your Regulatory Body – October 25, 2005

Workshop Faculty – *Civil Motions Workshop 2004* – The Advocates' Society – November 6, 2004

Panelist – *New Lawyer Essential Series: Getting Noticed for All the Right Reasons* – The Advocates' Society – October 7, 2004

Workshop Faculty – *Advanced Litigation Skills Certificate Program: Expert Evidence* – The Advocates' Society – April 20, 2004

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Planning Committee – *Civil Motions Workshop 2003* – The Advocates' Society – November 15, 2003

Presentation – *Objective Standards: Minimizing Conflict of Interest and Accusations of Bias* – Infonex Conference on Professional Regulation and Discipline – September 22, 2003

Clinic Leader – *Employment Law* – Law Society of Upper Canada's Conference on Advanced Drafting for Lawyers – April 29, 2003

Speaker – *Law Day Symposium* – Toronto Catholic District School Board – April 14, 2003

Workshop Leader – *Honing Your Investigative Process* – Infonex Conference on Professional Discipline and Regulation: How to Run an Effective, Legal and Progressive Professional Regulatory Body – January 22, 2003 (Halifax) and October 24, 2001 (Toronto)

Planning Committee – *Civil Motions Workshop 2002* – Law Society of Upper Canada and the Advocates' Society – September 28, 2002

Presentation – *Avoiding the Pitfalls of Accusations of Bias* – Infonex Conference on Training Discipline Committee Members – May 30, 2002

Presentation – *The Law and the Health Professions* – 2001 Small Business Training Session of the Association of Professional Health Care Providers – August 6, 2001

Presentation – *Business Aspects of Professional Practice* – 2000 Small Business Training Session of the Association of Professional Health Care Providers – August 11, 2000