



Megan E. Shortreed

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- Called to the Bar – 1997
- Partner, Paliare Roland. Practice in professional regulation, employment, estates and commercial litigation
- Bencher (2019-2023): Chair, Professional Regulation Committee, Chair, Proportional Regulation Task Force, Chair, Trustee Services Working Group, Vice Chair, Paralegal Standing Committee, Law Society Tribunal and Appeals Tribunal, Proceedings Authorization, Audit & Finance, Strategic Planning and Advisory, Equity and Indigenous Affairs Committees
- Director, Law Society Foundation
- LSO Justicia Project (2008-2014)
- Director, Advocates' Society (2014-2018)
- Editorial Board, Commercial Litigation and Arbitration Review
- Former Director, Homes First Foundation
- TLA Honsberger Award (2014)
- Member, The Advocates' Society, TLA, OBA, and WLAO
- Listed in Chambers, LExpert, Best Lawyers, Benchmark

I grew up in Waterloo, Ontario, and became the first person in my family to go to law school. I spent the first five years of my career at a large, national law firm. In 2001, I left that safe harbour to start a small firm with a group of progressive and dedicated advocates.

I have been a leader, teacher and mentor in my firm and the profession. My involvement in legal and community organizations has allowed me to speak with an informed and persuasive voice.

A significant part of my practice is professional regulation. I also routinely advise clients on board governance and workplace matters.

This legal and board experience has allowed me to contribute meaningfully as a Bencher at the Law Society. As a Bencher, my approach is one of principled, fair and cost-effective governance. In my first term, I was entrusted by three Treasurers with significant leadership roles, because I know how to keep focus on the regulator's core mandate and get things done. I believe in proportional regulation - every measure should protect the public while being fair and reducing burdens where possible to licensees.

I am dedicated to advancing women in the professions and to ensuring Law Society support of small firms, sole practitioners, and young and racialized lawyers. In 2008, I took on a leadership role with the Law Society's Justicia Project for the Retention of Women, work that needs to be continued. Rapid technological and social change are affecting our work. I believe the Law Society can do more to ensure lawyers and paralegals are supported to meet these challenges competently.

Before becoming a Bencher, I had the privilege of serving as a Director of The Advocates' Society. I have also been involved for decades in issues confronting the homeless, including in director's roles with Homes First and the Law Society Foundation.

I believe I have more to contribute to the professions. I am running with the Bencher Good Governance Coalition because I believe competent, representative leaders can bring common sense, thoughtful debate, and decorum back to Convocation.

<https://www.goodgovernancecoalition.ca/>