



CLA Mentoring Program

A two day interactive mentoring seminar for CLA members called in 2004 or later.

Dates

February 19, 2010 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

February 20, 2010 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Delta Chelsea Hotel

Toronto, Ontario

[**Click here to apply**](#)

Application Deadline is January 22, 2010

Program Objective

The Criminal Lawyers' Association is presenting a two day program to assist young lawyers develop the skills necessary to become an effective advocate. The program is also designed to provide tips to assist recent calls in navigating the realities of a life in criminal law practice.

Many criminal lawyers are sole practitioners or members of small firms. They do not have the support of an existing firm infrastructure or the benefit of having senior colleagues to consult for advice. This program has been designed to foster access to essential mentoring that newer CLA members require to build a strong, successful sustainable practice.

The program will focus on four basic trial advocacy skills: examination-in-chief, cross-examination, expert opinion evidence and openings/closings. The program will be conducted using the "NITA" approach to teaching trial advocacy; that is, student-participants will be given the files in advance and will be expected to come prepared to perform each skill which will then be critiqued by teams of experienced instructors. The program will also include a discussion on practice issues including Law Society Practice Reviews and Spot Audits along with guidance on how to balance work and personal life.

Program Fees

The association is investing in the future of the criminal defence bar by offering this program free of charge to eligible CLA members. To assist eligible members outside of the Greater Toronto Area, travel and accommodation bursaries will be made available. For those living more than 100 kms from Toronto, the association will cover up to two nights accommodation and will provide a travel bursary of \$150.00 for those traveling greater than 150 km and less than 400 km to attend the program. For those traveling greater than 400 km, a maximum bursary of \$400.00 will be provided.

How do I register to attend the program?

This program has been designed for criminal lawyers recently called to the bar. The program is limited to 60 attendees consequently, attendees will need to apply to attend the program by completing an online application form. The application process will take approximately 3 – 5 minutes. Applications must be submitted by January 22, 2010. To be eligible, you must be a CLA members called to the bar in 2004 or later.

Applications will be reviewed and rated for acceptance based on a variety of factors including; year called to the bar, geographic location of practice and composition of legal practice. Sole practitioners with limited access to mentoring will be scored higher.

Notification of acceptance will be sent by January 29, 2010.