



Douglas (Doug) O. Smith

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[Banking Litigation](#)
[Insurance Claim Defence](#)
[Municipal Liability](#)
[Sports & Gaming Law](#)

Doug's **civil litigation** practice includes governmental and police liability, banking insurance litigation, product liability, administrative and regulatory law, and health law.

His **commercial litigation** practice covers contract disputes, commercial insolvency, priority disputes, and general bankruptcy and insolvency matters.

Doug has acted as counsel at more than 25 trials before the Superior Court of Justice and the Federal Court of Canada, on issues such as Police Liability, Products Liability and Crown liability.

He also has extensive experience before appellate courts, including the Ontario Court of Appeal, the Ontario Divisional Court and the Federal Court of Appeal.

Experience

- Acted as counsel on coroner's inquests, judicial reviews, arbitrations and *habeas corpus* applications.
- Acted as counsel on numerous matters on the Commercial List of the Ontario Superior Court, including applications to appoint a receiver, injunction applications, motions to approve a receiver-sale of assets and priority disputes.
- Acted as counsel on numerous leave applications to the Supreme Court of Canada.

Insights & Events

- Instructor - BLG 301
- Instructor - BLG negotiation course for summer students
- Instructor - University of Toronto Diploma in Investigative and Forensic Accounting
- Author, "Ontario court clarifies law for the commencement of limitation periods for prosecutorial torts", BLG Article, November 2020
- Author, "Game On: Reopening sports and recreation during COVID-19", BLG Article, June 2020
- Author, "Following the money: The doctrines of knowing assistance, knowing receipt, and the tracing of defrauded funds", BLG Article, April 2020
- Author, "Material withholding renders life insurance coverage voidable ", BLG Article, March 2020
- Author, "Court Concludes Police Owed No Private Law Duty of Care to Victim of Unexpected Shooting", BLG Article, August 2019

Beyond Our Walls

Professional Involvement

- Member, Canadian Bar Association
- Member, The Advocates' Society
- Mentor to BLG associates, articling students and summer students

Awards & Recognitions

- Selected by peers for inclusion in the 2025 (and since 2011) editions of *The Best Lawyers in Canada*® (Insurance Law & Personal Injury Litigation).
- Recognized in the 2025 edition (and since 2022) of *The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory* (Litigation - Commercial Insurance) and from the 2021 to the 2024 editions (Personal Injury)
- Recognized in the 2024 edition (and since 2022) of *Lexpert Special Edition: Litigation*

Bar Admission & Education

- Ontario, 1995
- LLB, Queen's University, 1993
- B.Sc., McMaster University, 1990

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intellectual property agents and other professionals, BLG serves the legal needs of businesses and institutions across Canada and beyond – from M&A and capital markets, to disputes, financing, and trademark & patent registration.

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