

Crystal O'Donnell, B.A., LL.B., LL.M.

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iJudicate Inc.

Founder and CEO

October 2023 - Present

In 2023, I founded iJudicate Inc., a legal technology and services company providing an innovative platform and support services for advanced case management and hearing room solutions in arbitration. Our services include:

- Providing cutting-edge technology for efficient case and evidence management.
- Offering electronic evidence and process expertise to arbitrators and clients.
- Assisting in the development of streamlined and efficient processes for electronic evidence exchange and hearing proceedings.

Heuristica Discovery Counsel LLP

Founder and Managing Partner

May 2015 - Present

In 2015, I founded Heuristica Discovery Counsel LLP ("HDC"), a national law firm specializing in electronic evidence for dispute resolution. Our clients include governments, corporations, public bodies, and law firms.

- HDC serves as discovery and electronic evidence counsel for complex disputes and investigations, advising clients on defensible and proportionate disclosure practices and evidence management throughout the dispute resolution process.
- I am deeply involved in integrating legal technologies into client operations and individual disputes, contributing to the ongoing advancement of technology and improved processes in the administration of justice.
- A significant mandate of the firm is ongoing education of the profession and the advancement of technology in the administration of justice.
- In 2020 I received the Ontario Bar Association's President's Award.

O'Donnell Law

Sole practitioner

April 2011 – February 2015

As a sole practitioner, I managed civil and commercial litigation, conducted legal research, and provided expert services in electronic discovery and project management. My practice included:

- Preparing motion materials, memos, and research for litigation cases.
- Acting as eDiscovery project counsel and managing cross-jurisdictional eDiscovery matters.
- Providing research support to international arbitration cases.

LexisNexis Applied Discovery

Electronic Discovery Consultant

November 2009 – March 2011

As the sole Canadian employee, I played a key role in developing the Applied Discovery platform for the Canadian market. My responsibilities included:

- Training project managers on Canadian litigation requirements and cross-border/conflict of laws issues.
- Assisting in the expansion and development of the Canadian market for eDiscovery technologies.

Ministry of the Attorney General, Ontario

Legal counsel, litigation and advisory

February 20024 – October 2009

In this role, I worked within various justice sectors, providing litigation and policy counsel. Key highlights include:

- Serving as the first counsel to the newly established Conflict of Interest Commissioner.
- Providing counsel to the Chief Coroner, Court Services, and numerous Ontario administrative tribunals.
- Litigation and policy advice across a broad range of public law issues.

Blaney McMurtry LLP

Litigation Associate and Articling Student

May 1997 – January 2004

I began my legal career at Blaney McMurtry LLP, working as an articling student and then as a litigation associate. I gained experience in commercial litigation, professional liability, regulatory compliance, and insurance matters. My primary areas of focus included:

- Commercial litigation, negligence, professional liability, and public law.
- Insurance defense and coverage, regulatory compliance, and risk management.

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

- Extensive experience as dispute resolution and litigation counsel for private and public sector clients, including corporations, financial institutions, the Premier of Ontario, the Attorney General of Ontario, Secretary of Cabinet, Judges, government ministries and administrative tribunals.
- Expertise in policy development, contract interpretation, regulatory compliance, commercial disputes, risk management, procurement, and cross-border legal issues.
- Representation in litigation, arbitration, judicial reviews, administrative tribunals, Coroner's Inquests and Public Inquiries.

- Counsel to the Honourable Justice Sidney Linden, Conflict of Interest Commissioner, provided legal and policy advice regarding conflict of interest, political activity, jurisdiction, and financial disclosure; and, reviewed conflict of interest rules of Boards and Tribunals, contracts, memoranda of understanding, Orders-in-Council and Appointments.
- Litigation experience before the Ontario Court of Appeal, Ontario Superior Court of Justice, and Ontario Divisional Court.

POLICY AND TEACHING

- Member, Ontario Civil Rules Committee (Court of Appeal for Ontario), Subcommittee on AI (<https://www.ontariocourts.ca/coa/about-the-court/civil-rules-committee>)
- Former Chair of the Board of Directors, and current Board member of CanLII (Canadian Legal Information Institute) (<https://www.canlii.org/en/info/about.html>)
- Board of Directors, Lexum Informatique Juridique Inc. (<https://lexum.com/en/>)
- Chair, Uniform Law Conference of Canada, Working Group, harmonization of electronic evidence procedural rules (<https://www.ulcc-chlc.ca/>)
- Co-Instructor, eLitigation, Faculty of Law, University of Calgary
- Former Steering Committee Member, Sedona Canada, a Working Group 7 of The Sedona Conference
Work includes drafting the second edition of The Sedona Canada Principles Addressing Electronic Discovery and public commentary for Letters Rogatory
- Former Vice-Chair, Ontario E-Discovery Implementation Committee (Now Digital Evidence & eDiscovery Working Group) (<https://digital-evidence.ca/>)
Terms of Reference Subcommittee, Communication and Outreach Subcommittee, Precedents Subcommittee and Conference Planning Subcommittee

EDUCATION

Member of the Law Society of Ontario and Law Society of Alberta	1999 and 2018
LL.M., University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario Law and Economics	2002
LL.B. (JD), Queen’s University, Kingston, Ontario	1997
B.A., York University, Toronto, Ontario Economics	1993