

JAMES MATTHEW FITCH

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Jim is a masterful leader, writer and logician, with a high degree of cultural and organizational understanding and a sophisticated capacity for active listening.

Education

Bachelor of Laws, University of Western Ontario, 1997

Master of Arts in Political Philosophy, McMaster University, 1994

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, University of Waterloo, 1993

Professional Certifications

Accredited Elder Mediator, Ontario Association for Family Mediation

Accredited Family Mediator, Ontario Association for Family Mediation

Employment Experience

Principal Mediator, Thrive Mediation: 2016-Present

- Plans, directs and facilitates mediations from first contact and pre-mediation screening stages to production of Memoranda of Understanding, chiefly in Family, Elder and Condominium practice areas
- Connects and refers mediation clients to support, therapy and other services and sources of information as required
- Helps mediation clients develop insight, communication strategies and other conflict-reduction and conflict-management tools

Senior Legal Writer, Carswell Thomson Reuters, 1999-2015

- Developed high-level research and writing skills through indexing and summarizing case law
- Principal Legal Writer, Criminal products
- Principal Legal Writer, Immigration and Citizenship Products
- Principal Legal Writer, Canadian Abridgment/CED Rectification (online)

Councillor, College of Physiotherapists of Ontario, 2004-2010

- Provided executive corporate governance services to governing body of self-regulating health profession
- Chair, Governance Effectiveness Committee
- Chair, Discipline and Fitness to Practice Committee
- Elected member, Executive Committee and Acting Vice-President of College

Instructor, Police Foundations Program, Fanshawe College, 2007-2008

- Taught Law of Evidence to first-year Police Foundations students
- Co-directed Evidence portion of Private Security segment practicum
- Emphasized critical thinking and systematic analysis

Instructor, Evidence, Ontario Police College, 2006-2008

- Taught Law of Evidence to immediate post-hire sworn and Regional police service members
- Developed and led first Seminar on the Law of Evidence for civilian members

Statutory and Regulatory Consultant, Minister for Health (Ontario), 2006-2007

- Seconded from College of Physiotherapists
- Drafting consultant on amendments to *Regulated Health Professions Act* concerning professional conduct

Regulatory Taxonomy Consultant, Minister of Justice and Attorney-General for Canada and Office of the Prime Minister of Canada, 1994-1995

- Contributed to full overhaul of English-language Taxonomy and Nomenclature (T&N) standards for Regulations promulgated under all non-budgetary Acts of Parliament
- Directed regulatory punctuation project within new T&N standards
- Three project mentions in Hansard

Professional Community Involvement: Mediation

Roleplay Designer, JADE Practice Group

- Designs and drafts mediation roleplay exercises for new mediators or those wishing to improve skills

Member, Complaints Committee, Ontario Association for Family Mediation (OAFM)

- Revised OAFM Professional Conduct and Complaints Policies

- Adjudicates upon complaints concerning Accredited Family Mediators

Chair, Complaints Committee, Family Dispute Resolution Institute of Ontario (FDRIO)

- Authored FDRIO Complaints Policy
- Directs, co-ordinates and adjudicates upon complaints process concerning FDRIO-accredited FDR professionals

Academic and Professional Awards

- Top National Oralist, Gale Memorial Criminal/Constitutional Moot, 1997
- First Place, Seminar in Criminal Law Practice, 1997
- First Place, Advanced Criminal Procedure, 1996
- First Place, Media and Communications Law, 1996
- First Place, Constitutional Law, 1995
- Schnarr Silver Medalist, Faculty of Graduate Studies and Department of Political Science, 1994
- Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Undergraduate Award, 1993

Publications

- "Professional Ethics and Conduct" in Barbara Landau, et al., *The Family Dispute Resolution Handbook*, 6th ed. (Toronto: LexisNexis Canada, 2018).
- "Case Comment: *Servellon Melendez v. Canada (Minister of Citizenship and Immigration)*", (2014) 28 Imm. L.R. (4th) 311.
- "Annotation: *R. v. Choi*" (2014) 21 Imm. L.R. (4th) 20.
- "Case Comment: *Jiang v. Manitoba (Minister of Labour)*" (2013) 17 Imm. L.R. (4th) 212.