



Jennifer Dolman

Partner, Disputes

.....
Toronto

(416) 862-5911

jdolman@osler.com
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Bar Admission: Ontario, 1991

Areas of Expertise

Travel and Leisure

Transportation and Logistics

Real Estate

Automotive

Retail and Consumer Products

Food and Beverage

Disputes

Franchise

Employment and Labour

Corporate and Commercial Disputes

Intellectual Property

Class Action Defence

Jennifer has been practicing commercial litigation for over 30 years, after clerking for the Chief Justice of the Ontario Court (General Division). Jennifer’s practice focuses primarily on assisting Canadian and international franchisors, from a variety of industries including quick service restaurants, retail, pharmacy, automotive, real estate, hospitality, education, manufacturing and technology, with their business-critical disputes.

She regularly defends claims by individual franchisees, as well as franchisee group and class actions, under Ontario’s *Arthur Wishart Act* and other Canadian franchise statutes, for rescission, breach of the duty of good faith and fair dealing, misrepresentation and interference with the right to associate, and enforcing terminations.

In addition to franchise matters, Jennifer also defends wrongful dismissal claims (in which she has responded to a number of summary judgment motions) and human rights complaints for employers, and has experience in intellectual property (including trade-mark and copyright infringement, and the protection of trade secrets and confidential information), defamation (including statements made via the Internet), privacy matters and represents manufacturers and suppliers in their disputes with agents and distributors. Jennifer has particular expertise in the area of injunctions and emergency applications, especially regarding the enforcement of restrictive covenants against franchisees, dealers, distributors, licensees or departing senior employees.

Jennifer is an active participant in franchise organizations in Canada and the U.S., is the past Chair of the Ontario Bar Association Franchise Law Section, and a frequent speaker and writer. In addition to having written over 35 franchise articles for Financial Post Entrepreneur, Jennifer regularly posts franchise articles on her LinkedIn account and was formerly the only Canadian on the editorial board of the American Bar Association’s *Franchise Law Journal*. Jennifer volunteers as a skills instructor and speaker at The Advocates’ Society, previously sat on the Board of Governors of Havergal College, an independent girls school in Toronto. Jennifer is a member of Women Get on Board Inc. and is interested in pursuing new board opportunities.

Awards and Recognition

- **Chambers Canada: Canada's Leading Lawyers for Business:** Recognized in Franchising (Band 1)
 - "[Jennifer is] the top tier of franchise lawyers; the crème de la crème."
- **Who's Who Legal:** Ranked in Who's Who Legal: Thought Leaders – Global Elite; Ranked in Who's Who Legal, International – Franchising, Thought Leader in the area of Franchising Law; Ranked in Who's Who Legal: International – Franchising in the area of Franchise Law; Ranked in Who's Who Legal Canada – Franchise in the area of Franchise Law
- **The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory:** Recognized in Franchise Law – Franchisor
- **Best Lawyers in Canada:** Recognized in Franchise Law
- **Franchise Times:** Recognized in Franchise Times as a Legal Eagle
 - "creative, experienced problem-solver [and having] successfully resolved dozens of disputes.", 2014 edition
 - "the 'go-to' franchise litigator in Canada.", 2013 edition
- **OBA Markus Cohen:** Received OBA Markus Cohen. Q.C. Memorial Award for Franchise Law
- **University of Toronto:** Awarded an Arbor Award for longstanding volunteer service
- **Lexpert Special Edition:** Recognized in Litigation

Community Involvement

- *ABA Franchise Law Journal*
- The Advocates' Society, Workshop Instructor and Speaker
- CFA Ontario Regional Law Day (2009, 2010) Planning Committee and 2007 Co-chair
- Havergal College, Board of Governors (2012-2018)
- IFA Legal Symposium Task Force (2008-2009)
- *LJN's Franchising & Business Law Alert*, Former Member of Editorial Board
- Vice Chair, College of Electors, University of Toronto
- Past Chair, Ontario Bar Association Franchise Law Section
- Academic Board Member, University of Toronto
- College of Electors (2018-2022), Former Vice-Chair (2020-2022)

Credentials

Education

- McGill University, LL.B.
- University of Toronto, B.A.

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Languages

- English

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Professional Affiliations

- Advocates' Society
- American Bar Association (member of Litigation Section, Forum on Franchising)
- Canadian Franchise Association
- Law Society of Ontario
- Ontario Bar Association
- Faculty of Law Toronto Engagement Subcommittee and Fundraising, McGill University
- International Franchise Association