Dear Criminal Law Practitioners,

While I have enjoyed the past 4 years as the York Regional Director, I have decided to step down from this position and seek election to the Executive of the Criminal Lawyers Association. I would like to thank, and welcome Daniella Guido for stepping in this position, effective end of next month.

It has an interesting time to say the least. Within a few months of assuming this position, the Courts suddenly closed as we dealt with the Covid 19 phenomena. I still distinctly recall leaving the courthouse on a normal "packed" day, and then returning a short time thereafter, wearing a mask and entering an empty building for a courthouse meeting Covid protocol meeting. It was both eerie and sad.

I have enjoyed addressing inquiries and emails from members, as well as being part of the Newmarket courthouse "team" that has worked to formulate and implement Protocols and Directions concerning virtual proceedings and practice. We have come a long on this "modernization" of our court system; with both positive and negative consequences. But we adjust, and move on.

Finally, I would like to personally thank both Betty and Janet, who have been superb through this entire process, and have helped me fulfill the role as best I could. I would also like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of Justices Rosenberg, Ghosh and Henschell for leading the path forward.

Sincerely,

Norman Panzica