

Michel William Drapeau, OMM, CD, LL.L, LL.B [Colonel (ret.)]
Member, Law Society of Upper Canada
Professor – Faculty of Law, University of Ottawa –



Michel W. Drapeau is in the private practice of law [www.mdlo.ca] in all areas of administrative law, in particular, security and military law, freedom of information and privacy law, human rights law, employment law (grievances, workplace harassment) as well as civil litigation.

He has appeared before the Federal Court of Appeal, the Court Martial Appeal Court, the Federal Court of Canada, the Ontario and Quebec Superior Court, and a host of administrative tribunals.

FORMAL EDUCATION

- Third year standing Bachelor of Commerce. Sir George Williams University - 1971
- LL.L. *Cum laude* [Droit civil] Université d'Ottawa - 1999
- LL.B. *Cum laude* [Common Law] University of Ottawa - 2000
- Bar Admission Course. Law Society of Upper Canada* - 2001-2002

* In 2001-2002, he articulated at the Federal Court of Appeal.

- In 2009, he was appointed as Adjunct Professor of Law at the University of Ottawa.
- Between 2008-2012, he served on the Board of Governors, Royal Military College of Canada.
- Since 2012, he serves on the Board of Directors, Saint-Paul University, Ottawa, Ontario.

LEGAL TEACHING AND WRITINGS

Michel Drapeau lectures on Access To Information and Privacy Law, and Canadian Military Law at the Faculty of Law of the University of Ottawa at the undergraduate and graduate levels. He has also lectured on public law before several audiences, including members of the Manitoba Bar, members of the Ontario Bar and members of the Quebec Bar. He has authored or co-authored several works in Canadian Military Law (see below) as well as in freedom-of-information law and privacy law.

- Co-author with Mr. Justice Gilles Létourneau of the *Military Justice in Action*, 2011, Thompson Carswell.
- Co-author of Canadian Encyclopedic Digest, 4th Edition, *Canadian Military Law*, 2010, Thompson Carswell
- Co-author with Mr. Justice Gilles Létourneau of the *Canadian Military Law Annotated*, 2005, Thompson Carswell.
- Author of a comprehensive article titled "*Sentencing under the National Defence Act: Perspectives and Musings of a former soldier*", published in the Canadian Bar Review in August 2003.
- Author of an article on the Law of Armed Conflicts: «*What Happens when Canadian Soldiers Commit Crimes Abroad*», delivered at the conference *The Highway to the International Criminal Court: All Roads lead to Rome* hosted in 2003 by the Faculty of Law, *Université de Montréal* and the Canadian Institute of the Administration of Justice.
- Member of the advisory board for the CCH supplemented publication, *Public Security Law Guide*, CCH 2002.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

Prior to joining the legal profession, Michel Drapeau served 34 years in the Canadian military (Regular Force and Reserves). At retirement in 1992, he was the Special Assistant to the Vice Chief of the Defence Staff. Immediately prior, he served for four years as the Director, National Defence Headquarters Secretariat as well as Secretary, Armed Forces Council. A combat logistician, he served abroad on two separate tours of duties. During his career, he commanded a field unit on two separate occasions.

He is a graduate of the National Defence College (1988 - Kingston Ontario); the U.S. Armed Forces Staff College (1977- Norfolk, Virginia); the CF Command and Staff College (1975 -Toronto); the U.S. Army Military Comptrollership School (1977 -Indianapolis). In 1984, he was seconded to the then Department of Secretary of State to act as Deputy Coordinator, *Royal Visit to Canada by Her Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh*.

Upon retirement from the Canadian Forces, Michel Drapeau accepted a two-year appointment at the executive level within the Federal Public Service. Reporting to the then Deputy Minister and the Chief of the Defence Staff, he served as Acting Director General Corporate Management Services at National Defence Headquarters.

Since his retirement from the Department of National Defence and the Canadian Forces, Michel Drapeau gained a national profile as a media analyst and columnist on military and security affairs. He has regularly appeared before House of Commons and Senate Committee hearings on issues related to Canadian military law as well as freedom of information. He writes regularly on issues related to Canadian military law.

Lastly, in 1997 he ran as a Progressive-Conservative candidate in the Federal General Election.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Law Society of Upper Canada
- Canadian Bar Association
- Ontario Bar Association
- County of Carleton Law Association
- *Association des Juristes d'expression française de l'Ontario*
- Civil Liberties Association of Canada
- Canadian Association of Law Teachers
- Canadian Institute for the Administration of Justice
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- International Society for Military law and the Law of War
- Association of Military Court Advocates – United Kingdom

DECORATIONS

In recognition for "outstanding military service", in 1990 Michel Drapeau was named to the *Order of Military Merit*. He also holds also the Canadian Forces Decoration, First and Second Clasp.

In 1993, he was awarded the Commemorative Medal for the 125th Anniversary of the Confederation of Canada in recognition of his "significant contribution to Canada". In 2003, he was awarded the *Commemorative Medal for the Golden Jubilee* of Her Majesty the Queen Elizabeth II. In 2013, he was awarded the *Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal* for his continued support to the veterans and their families.