

Norm Galarneau B.Comm., LL.B.

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LITIGATOR · EDUCATOR · NEGOTIATOR

Profile

Calgary lawyer with 27 years of practice in Alberta (1999 to 2026), mainly in civil, commercial and personal injury litigation, with corporate and commercial law experience. Work has included research, writing and drafting, negotiation and settlement, mediation, and running a general practice with a team of administrators, lawyers and students. Instructor at SAIT and Red Deer College (2001 to 2008) and principal to articling students (2005 to 2020).

Areas of experience

- Civil litigation
- Personal injury litigation
- Commercial litigation
- Negotiation and settlement
- Mediation preparation and attendance
- Agreement analysis and drafting
- Business document and policy review and drafting
- Corporate processes, compliance and filings
- Employment law matters
- Law practice operations management

Professional experience

Senior Lawyer, Personal Injury Litigation, Calgary

2024–present

- Conduct of more than 175 active litigation files.
- Civil litigation steps including drafting briefs, questioning, mediations, preparing orders and negotiating settlements.
- Identify legal issues and potential outcomes, and advise clients on the options open to them.
- Lead a litigation team.
- Work with clients, opposing counsel and insurance adjusters.

Senior Lawyer, Personal Injury

2023–2024

Boutique personal injury practice

- Took over conduct of more than 100 active litigation files on joining.
- Drafting briefs, questioning, mediations, appearances before Applications Judges and Justices, preparing orders and negotiating settlements.
- Identified legal issues and potential outcomes, and advised clients on the options open to them.
- Led a litigation team.

Lawyer

2022–2023

Practice in family law, wills and estates, trust and real estate law

- Advisory and litigation work for individuals, in and out of the Court of King's Bench and the Alberta Court of Justice.
- Identified legal issues and potential outcomes, and set out options and cost-effective alternatives.
- Legal research, opinions and strategy.

Senior Lawyer and Director of Operations

2002–2022

My own professional corporation (general practice)

- Ran a general practice focused on litigation and on commercial, corporate, business and contract law, with up to 400 files.
- Recruited, mentored and directed a team of administrators, lawyers and students; human resource development.
- Advisory and litigation work for individuals and businesses, in and out of the Court of King's Bench.
- Acted on employment law cases for both claimants and defendants.
- Corporate compliance and filings.
- Lead negotiator and manager of contracts and agreements for business clients, including complex contracts.
- Appeared at all steps of the litigation process, at all levels of court in Alberta.

Associate Lawyer

1999–2002

General practice

- Joined straight out of articles, with day-to-day responsibility for a general practice of about 150 files.
- Regular and special chambers applications, and judicial dispute resolution.
- Advised on legal needs and risks, including matters with multiple parties.

Teaching and mentoring

CPLED (Alberta's bar admission program), contractor

- Assessor; workshop facilitator; mentoring program practice manager.
- Consultant for the creation of test questions in Civil Law.

Instructor, SAIT and Red Deer College

2001–2008

Business Law, Civil Litigation and Personal Injury

- Taught Litigation Law I and II, Credit and Collections, Personal Injury, and Business Law.
- Prepared lectures, planned class activities and led seminars; built case studies into experiential learning.
- Worked with students on critical thinking, writing and problem evaluation.

Principal to articling students

2005–2020

- Supervised and mentored articling students over multiple years.

Earlier experience

- Operations Manager at an internet technology company, responsible for a team of 39 technicians.
- Various sales positions.

Education

- Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.), University of Manitoba
- Bachelor of Commerce (B.Comm.), University of Alberta

Technology

Microsoft Office, Clio, Teams, Zoom, WebEx, QuickBooks; some coding and VR.

This CV is provided for general information only. It isn't legal advice, and contacting me doesn't create a lawyer-client relationship.