



Areas of expertise

- Criminal Litigation
- Quasi-criminal Prosecution and Defence
- Regulatory investigations and hearings
- Constitutional law
- Appellate Advocacy

Bar admission

- Ontario, 1992

Education

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

Biography

Michal joined Stockwoods after over two decades with the Ministry of Attorney General – Crown Law Office Criminal, where she was General Counsel. In that role, she has argued over twenty-five appeals before the Supreme Court of Canada and over a hundred in the Ontario Court of Appeal, many of which have become the leading cases on significant issues in Canadian law. As General Counsel, she has been repeatedly called on to lead large counsel teams on particularly sensitive, complex, and high-profile trials and appeals. She is an extraordinary, confidence-inspiring litigator who has earned a reputation with all levels of court and the bar as a tough, but fair advocate. She is as comfortable running a first-degree murder or fraud trial with international dimensions, as she is with arguing a complex and ground-breaking constitutional issue before the Supreme Court of Canada.

Michal is proficient at providing strategic counsel, having routinely advised the highest levels of government and high-ranking police and regulatory officials on privacy, search and seizure, domestic and trans-national criminal law issues, and electronic surveillance problems. During her many years as Electronic Surveillance and Complex Search Co-ordinator for the Province of Ontario, she advised on some of the most difficult emerging issues related to domestic and international privacy.

In her current practice, she defends and advises clients on these and related problems, including the challenges created by emerging technologies, foreign corrupt practices issues, privacy compliance, and both regulatory and class action litigation emerging from competition and securities regulation.



Michal is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers and served as a Director of the Advocates' Society from 2010 to 2013. A prolific and respected writer, she regularly speaks at continuing legal education conferences, including presentations to the National Judicial Institute, the International Criminal Court, and the Canada-China Judicial Linkage Project. She sits on the Planning Committee for the leading criminal law program in Canada (the Federation of Law Societies National Criminal Law Program), and is an advisor to the Supreme Court Advocacy Institute.

Representative Work

- Has led counsel teams and litigated a wide variety of complex trial and appeal work ranging from sexual assault, to first-degree murder, to major white-collar crime.
- Has argued leading Supreme Court cases considering the intersection of civil and criminal and related proceedings, including: *R. v. Nedelcu*; *R. v. R.J.S.*
- Acted for the Province of Ontario on a host of major search and seizure and privacy-related cases in the Supreme Court of Canada and Ontario Court of Appeal, including: *CanadianOxy Chemicals; Lavallee, Rackel & Heintz; R. v. Rodgers; R. v. S.A.B.; R. v. Ward; R v Patrick.*
- Counsel on leading cases concerning police powers, including: *R. v. Mann; R. v. Decorte; R. v. Clayton; R. v. Grant and Harrison.*

Representative Publications & Speaking Engagements

- Law Society of Upper Canada, Criminal Law and the Charter 2013, The Impact of Technologies on the Reasonable Expectation of Privacy (October 2013)
- American Academy of Appellate Lawyers, Appeals in the Supreme Court of Canada and United States Supreme Court (April 2013)
- Osgoode Professional Development: Search and Seizure (November 2011 and January 2012); Search, Seizure and Technology (October 2011); Expert Evidence and Causation (October 2012)
- The Advocates Society, Criminal Advocacy Summit, Co-Chair (May 2012)
- Criminal Lawyers Association, Ethics (November 2012)
- Vietnamese Contingent of Judges, The Role of the Crown (December 2011)
- Co-author, Police Powers Newsletter, monthly publication of Westlaw/Thomson Reuters Canada Ltd.
- "Twenty-Five Years in Search of a Reasonable Approach" (2008), 40 S.C.L.R. (2d) 55, also published in J. Cameron and J. Stribopoulos, eds., *The Charter and Criminal Justice: 25 Years Later* (LexisNexis: Toronto, 2008)



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