

VENISE LEVESQUE

Bar: QC 1998

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At Delegatus since 2024



Professionalism and integrity are the cornerstones of my practice: I provide comprehensive support that extends beyond the legal needs of my clientele.

Biography

With over 25 years' experience, Venise is a seasoned lawyer practicing in the fields of regulatory compliance investigations, financial products and services, and securities, in which she has particular expertise.

Thanks to her experience as Assistant Syndic at the *Chambre de la sécurité financière*, then as Senior Legal Counsel at National Bank Financial and later as Regulatory Analyst and Counsel at the *Autorité des marchés financiers*, she has acquired in-depth knowledge of the regulatory requirements of the financial sector, which today enables her to advise and support a wide variety of clients in their obligations and regulatory compliance issues. Her clients range from financial intermediaries and financial institutions to venture capital firms. Venise also offers investigation services in regulatory compliance and disciplinary law.

Thanks to her knowledge, professional rigor and communication skills, Venise becomes both a legal advisor and a business partner to her clients.

Areas of practice

- Securities
- Financing and fintechs
- Administrative law and regulatory affairs
- Investigation and disciplinary law

In-house experience

Venise worked as senior legal counsel at National Bank Financial (NBF), where she provided legal advice and acted as risk manager for NBF, its various branches and/or their dealing or advising representatives.

She also acted as a resource person and provided legal advice in connection with client complaints against NBF, its subsidiaries, branches and/or representatives.

Venise has also held the position of Regulatory Analyst and Lawyer in the Supervision of Intermediaries Department at the *Autorité des marchés financiers*, where she participated in committees and working groups with other Canadian regulators on pan-Canadian securities regulatory projects.

Early in her career, Venise held the position of Legal Counsel at the OACIQ. She then joined the *Chambre de la sécurité financière* where she practiced as a lawyer to disciplinary matters, as an investigator and as Assistant Syndic, a role she held for over 10 years. Over the years, she managed and decided on the outcome of numerous investigation files, and participated in various specific mandates, including reviewing draft laws and regulations and evaluating strategies from a media perspective.

Representative work

- Participating in committees and working groups along with other Canadian regulators on pan-Canadian securities regulatory projects.
- Providing legal advice and act as risk manager for a large financial institution and its subsidiaries.
- Acting as a resource person and provide legal advice on customer complaints against a major financial institution, its subsidiaries, branches and/or representatives.
- Assuming the conduct of disciplinary mandates as Assistant Syndic in several disciplinary cases, some of which have served as jurisprudence on both guilt and sanction.
- Investigating, managing and/or deciding on the outcome of over 600 investigation files. One case in particular brought to light a scheme that had enabled an advisor to reap nearly a million dollars in commissions, bonuses and other remuneration at the expense of insurers.

Education

- CSI – Conduct and Practices Handbook Course Manual (CPH) | 2022
- CSI – Anti Money Laundering & Terrorist Financing for Securities Professionals (AML) | 2019
- CSI – Investment Funds in Canada (IFC) | 2013
- CSI – Canadian Securities Course (CSC) | 2008
- Concepts in Life and Health Insurance, “*Concepts en assurances de personnes*” | 2001
- LL.B., *Université Laval* | 1996

Professional affiliations

- Executive member of the board of directors of a non-profit organization | 2019-2022
- Legal volunteering with a non-profit organization | Since 2022