

Delegatus

Lawyers Collective

Allison Turner

Bar: QC 1993

aturner@delegatus.ca

T: 514 316-1355, ext. 749

C: 514 932-4430

At Delegatus since 2022



“What draws me most to the practice of law is being able to defend my client's rights and interests with integrity in a structured, well-rounded, and personalized way. I like to see the big picture, and to understand my client's situation in all its complexity.”

Allison Turner is a bilingual lawyer with over 25 years of practice in civil and commercial litigation, insurance law, and international law. Having practised for many years with large law firms and a major insurance company, she has worked on numerous complex civil law cases, including some involving class actions, and files pertaining to professional liability and municipal law.

Allison's passion for justice led her to earn her master's degree in international law in 2005, where she developed a unique expertise in international criminal law catapulting her practice as court-appointed defence counsel for over six years at the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda.

Following her work at the United Nations, Allison published articles in international journals, presented at numerous international conferences and worked as a sole practitioner serving a variety of clients. She also acted as a consultant to a community organization on the sustainable integration of a major real estate project to ensure it respected the architectural heritage of a Montreal historic district.

Areas of practice

- Civil and commercial litigation
- Insurance law
- Professional liability, administrative law
- International criminal law and international humanitarian law

In-house experience

Allison worked as a lawyer-analyst for Axa Boreal Insurance for over two years in the Specialty Lines division where she handled hundreds of E&O, D&O and CGL policies claims files. Her responsibilities included identifying and analyzing coverage issues, establishing reserves, delegating and supervising mandates to law firms and adjusters, and negotiating and resolving a variety of claims files. Allison also served as in-house counsel at the Professional Liability Insurance Fund for the *Chambre des notaires du Québec*.

Experience in private practice

Allison began her career at Blakely Gascon and Larose & Associates as a civil and commercial litigator. In 1997, she made the move to insurance law at Robinson Sheppard Shapiro where she managed the broad research and disclosure components of complex cases against insurers (clients) sued in the context of class action lawsuits against the insureds.

After working at the United Nations, Allison returned to private practice at Savonitto & Associates, and then GWBR, practicing civil and commercial litigation and professional liability. She then served a diverse client base in local and international human rights law as a sole practitioner for several years before joining Delegatus.

Important mandates

- Lawsuits filed against tobacco companies by smokers suffering from chronic respiratory diseases.
- Litigation against the Canadian Red Cross Society in the "tainted blood" affair that led to the reform of Canada's blood distribution system.
- Prosecutor v. Théoneste Bagosora *et als* (UN International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda).
- Expert mandate in Rwanda extradition case (High Court of Justice, Queen's Bench, London, United Kingdom).

Education

- LL.M., University of Montreal | 2005
- B.C.L., McGill University | 1991
- LL.B., McGill University | 1991
- Studies in Political Science, International Schiller University, Paris, France | 1985

Professional affiliations and community involvement

- Candidate, Federal Elections, Riding of *Ville-Marie—Le-Sud-Ouest—Île-des-Sœurs* | 2015
- Member of the International Association of Lawyers (*IJA*) | 2009-2012
- Founding member of Montreal women's advisory board, *Conseil des Montréalaises* | 2004-2006