



# Ben ElzingaCheng

Associate

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## Education

University of Toronto, Faculty of Law, Toronto, ON - 2011-2014

- Juris Doctor

University of British Columbia, Department of Medical Genetics, Vancouver, BC - 1998-2005

- Doctorate of Philosophy (Medical Genetics)

Simon Fraser University, Faculty of Science, Burnaby, BC -1992-1998

- Bachelor of Science (Biology)

## Professional Qualifications

Called to the Bar, Law Society of Upper Canada - June, 2015

## Work Experience

Ongoing **Associate**, Cooper, Sandler, Shime and Bergman LLP, Toronto, ON - July, 2015

**Articling Student**, Cooper, Sandler, Shime and Bergman LLP, Toronto, ON - August, 2014 - July, 2015

- Articling Student and then Associate with criminal defense firm assisting clients with charges under the *Criminal Code*, *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* and other quasi-Criminal regulatory legislation

**Per Diem Duty Counsel**, Brampton Ontario Court of Justice - December, 2015

- Duty counsel in Bail court assisting unrepresented accused with consent releases and contested bail hearings

**Student Caseworker**, Downtown Legal Services, Toronto, ON - Summers, 2012

2013

- Worked on files in the Criminal and Refugee/Immigration Divisions
- Attend set dates, conduct Pre-Trial negotiations with the Crown, make sentencing submissions and prepare and run trials
- Prepared written submissions in Refugee/Immigration Division

**English as a Second Language Teacher**, Xi'An Polytechnic University, Xi'An, Shaanxi, China - 2009-2010

- Taught English conversational class to college students

**Educational Presenter**, Scientists in School, Toronto, ON - 2007-2008

- Presented hands-on science workshops to Grade 6 and 8 students

**Research Technician**, Samuel Linenfold Research Institute, Mount Sinai Hospital, Toronto, ON 2006

- Investigated the binding of proteins to DNA with experiments

## Scholarships and Awards

**Leonard Feigman, Q.C. Prize in Evidence** - 2012-2013

**Canadian Institute for Health Research**, Doctoral Research Award - 2000-2003

**UBC Killam Memorial**, Pre-doctoral Fellowship - 2000-2001

**Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council**, Post Graduate Studies Scholarship (declined) - 2000

**Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council**, Post Graduate Studies Scholarship - 1998-2000

**Simon Fraser University**, Open Scholarship - 1997-1998

**Simon Fraser University**, Chancellor's Entrance Scholarship - 1992-1996

## Volunteer Activities

Faculty of Law, University of Toronto:

**Upper Year Shift Leader**, Downtown Legal Services, Criminal Division - 2012 -2014

**Volunteer Caseworker**, Downtown Legal Services, Criminal Division - 2011- 2012

**Volunteer Caseworker**, Advocates for Injured Workers - 2011-2012

Volunteer Activities outside Law

**Kids' Soccer Coach**, Sora Uren Park Soccer, Salvation Army Soccer - 2009-2012, 2015

**Drop in Volunteer**, Parkdale Neighborhood Church - 2006- 2011

**ESL Tutor**, Grandview Calvary Baptist Church - 2004-2005

## Recent Publications

February 7, 2015

Nolo Contendere and Alford Pleas in Canada; Ontario Bar Association's Institute 2015, Criminal Justice: Getting to Guilty (Not!)

## Skills & Interests

**Languages:** Conversational Mandarin

**Hobbies:** reading, traveling/exploring, Board Gaming, Ultimate Frisbee