



*Do you know how  
judges assess  
credibility?*



# **Credibility and Demeanor in the Courtroom: Witnesses & Nonverbal Communication with Vincent Denault**

**Wednesday, November 8, 2017**  
**Live webinar with chat**  
***includes 30 day replay\****

9:00 am – 10:30 am (Pacific)  
10:00 am – 11:30 am (Mountain)  
11:00 am – 12:30 pm (Central)  
12:00 pm – 1:30 pm (Eastern)  
1:00 pm – 2:30 pm (Atlantic)

*\*This program features real-time audio of the presenter with synchronized presentation slides, and a chat feature that allows for live Q & A. SK attendees please verify whether you align with Central (MB) or Mountain (AB) time based on season and location.*

## **WHO SHOULD ATTEND**

This program is designed for lawyers who want to better understand some of the nonverbal factors triers of fact take into consideration when making credibility assessments.

## **ABOUT THE PROGRAM**

According to the Supreme Court of Canada, credibility is a prevalent issue in most trials. While a witnesses' credibility can be influenced by a variety of factors, including their testimony's consistency with other evidence, witnesses' nonverbal communication can also play a crucial role. Facial expressions and gestures, as well as other nonverbal characteristics, can influence the weight a trier of fact gives to testimony, and ultimately, can determine the outcome of the trial. Understanding how nonverbal communication can influence a trier of fact's credibility assessment is therefore a valuable asset to trial lawyers. Using Canadian case law examples, as well as up to date research on credibility assessment and deception detection, this seminar aims to help lawyers understand the dynamic of nonverbal communication in the courtroom, and how a witnesses' nonverbal communication can lead triers of fact to conclude that a witness is truthful or dishonest. Understanding how courts interpret demeanor to make credibility assessments will better equip lawyers in a variety of litigation contexts.

## **SCHEDULE (Eastern)**

**12:00 pm - 1:30 pm**

Introduction: when knowing the law is not enough

Nonverbal communication, the silent authority

- False beliefs and pseudoscience
- Science for practitioners
- Demeanor in social interactions

Credibility according to the Supreme Court of Canada

- Core principles of credibility assessment
- Credibility and cross-examination
- Demeanor of witnesses

How triers of facts use nonverbal communication

- Heuristics and biases
- Specific demeanor vs. general observation
- Witnesses testifying or not

Conclusion: science to help the truth prevail

Program Evaluation

## MEET YOUR PRESENTER



Photo credit: Amélie Philibert, Université de Montréal

**Vincent Denault** is a lawyer and certified fraud examiner, member of the Bar of Quebec and the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners. He holds a Bachelor's degree of Laws from the Université du Québec à Montréal (UQÀM) and a Master's degree of Laws from the same university where he studied the impact of witnesses' nonverbal behavior during trials. Vincent Denault is also research assistant at the Communication and Health Research Center of the Université du Québec à Montréal (UQÀM), PhD student and lecturer at the Department of Communication of the Université de Montréal, co-director of the Center for Studies in Nonverbal Communication Sciences of the Montreal Mental Health University Institute Research Center and author of the book *Nonverbal Communication and Witnesses' Credibility* published by Yvon Blais Editions. Funded by the Quebec Research Funds – Society and Culture (FRQSC), Vincent's research focuses primarily on issues related to the credibility assessment, deception detection and nonverbal communication during trials. He is the inaugural recipient of the Emerging Scholar Award (2016) of the Nonverbal Division of the National Communication Association.



**ON:** This program is eligible for up to 1.5 Substantive hours.

**BC:** This program has been approved for 1.5 CPD hours.

**SK & NB:** CPD application is pending.

Lawyers in other mandatory CPD jurisdictions may count their attendance towards their CPD requirement/plan. Seminar Partners is an Accredited Provider of Professionalism Content by the Law Society of Upper Canada and a pre-approved CPD Provider of the Law Society of British Columbia.

### ✓ Yes, I want to attend **Credibility and Demeanor in the Courtroom with Vincent Denault** **Wednesday, November 8, 2017 • Live webinar (slides and audio) with chat and 30 day replay\***

9:00 am – 10:30 am (Pacific) • 10:00 am – 11:30 am (Mountain) • 11:00 am – 12:30 pm (Central)  
12:00 pm – 1:30 pm (Eastern) • 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm (Atlantic)

\* Materials will be distributed electronically in advance. Live webinars feature real-time audio of the presenter with synchronized presentation slides, and a chat feature that allows for live questions and verbal responses by the presenter. The recording of the webinar is available for 30 days.

#### **REGISTRATION FEE (with ON HST\*):**

**On or before October 6, 2017: \$135.00 + \$17.55 (13%) HST\* = \$152.55 - Save \$25.00!**

After October 6, 2017: \$160.00 + \$20.80 (13%) HST\* = \$180.80

*\*If paying by cheque, adjust tax for attendee's province as follows: 5% in AB, BC, MB, NWT, NU, SK, YK. 13% in ON. 15% in NS, NB, PEI & NL.*

**Register online:** <http://seminarpartners.ca/register-for-courses/>

**Register by mail, fax or phone:** Return this form with payment to Jennifer Snoyer, Finance and Communications Coordinator, Seminar Partners, 2300 Yonge Street, Suite 1600, Toronto, ON M4P 1E4 Tel. 1.866.606.4212 or 647.352.8633 Fax 416.549.1619. Email: [jennifer@seminarpartners.ca](mailto:jennifer@seminarpartners.ca). Registration fee is refundable less \$50 admin fee if written cancellation received 10 working days before the program. No refunds will be made after the cancellation date. Program content, speakers and location may change without notice. See our website for all policies. In the event of program cancellation, our liability is limited to refund of registration fees. GST/HST #848208492

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Firm: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Payment information** (or cheque payable to Seminar Partners)

Please charge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to my VISA/MC

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ CVV: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Expiry: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Billing address (if different than address above):**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Register today! • [seminarpartners.ca](http://seminarpartners.ca) • 1.866.606.4212 • [jennifer@seminarpartners.ca](mailto:jennifer@seminarpartners.ca)**