

# INDEX

  
DE GRANDPRÉ CHAIT LLP  
LAWYERS

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## Notes of the month

### Litigation

#### Guidelines for Testifying

The following are guidelines to help you testify in Court or during an examination. Although you may already have testified several times, these guidelines will be useful. Following these suggestions will enable you to give accurate and honest testimony while diminishing your stress, anxiety and confusion. The first rule to abide by, and the most important, is to tell the truth. This may seem easy, but it is not. In order to tell the truth, certain rules should be observed.

#### 1. Understand the question

Listen carefully to the question. If you do not understand the question, you should ask the interrogating person to repeat it more clearly before answering. Pay attention to ambiguous references such as he, she, as in the following example: She says that you were there an hour late when she did that. Is it true? In order to give an accurate answer, you should know the exact meaning of she, there, that and an hour late. It is not a sign of ignorance, weakness or lack of cooperation to request clarification. By **Mes Marc Beauchemin, Éric Lalanne and Étienne Panet-Raymond**. [Complete Text](#)

## Conferences

### Insurance

#### How to avoid liability for abuse of process or defamation

On **June 3, 2004**, **Me Christian M. Tremblay** will be a guest lecturer at the annual convention of the **Barreau du Québec** which will take place at the Québec City Convention Centre.

### Civil Liability

#### The Duty to Warn and the Civil Liability of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers

**Me Martin Tétrault** gave this lecture to the members of the **Junior Bar Association of Montreal** at a lunch conference on **May 19, 2004**.

### Labour and Employment

#### What is your action plan to protect yourself against a complaint of harassment in the workplace?

As of **June 1, 2004**, whether you are a small, medium or large business, **you will have to ensure that your employees have a work environment that is completely free from psychological harassment**. It is your responsibility as an employer but how will you go about it?

First, you should know that the work environment for which you are responsible as an employer is not limited to the physical location of an employee's workstation, but also includes every place where the employee has to perform his tasks as well as every person with whom the employee comes into contact in the course of his employment. As a result, **your responsibility as an employer now extends** to all of your employees, to officers and managers at all levels, to your representatives, to your suppliers, to your clients and to outside parties in short, **to any person** with whom one of your employees must or may deal in the course of his work. By **Me Andrée Gosselin** [Complete Text](#)

## Appointments

On **May 1, 2004**, **Me Marc Beauchemin** became chair of the **municipal law section of the Canadian Bar Association, Québec branch**. He will hold this position for one year.

## Highlights

On **June 1, 2004**, the new provisions regarding **psychological harassment** will come into force. To date, the lawyers in our Labour Law Group have met with over 100 employers to prepare them for dealing with harassment complaints and inform them of their obligations. We are pleased to offer **in-house information sessions for groups of 20 people or more**. If you are interested, please contact **Élaine Tassoni** at (514) 878-3235.

  
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