



## Mayette Ostonal

Paralegal

Strata Property

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### Profile

Strata Property law is more complex than one might think. Strata councils are essentially mini-governments meant to enforce the laws that govern their fellow owners and residents. That is hard enough, but then factor in that strata council members are all volunteers of varying employment and life experience levels. It's a wonder that chaos doesn't ensue.

Despite its efforts to be more accessible to "lay litigants" the Civil Resolution Tribunal (CRT) is a foreign process to most people. Add in the emotional toll of handling your own claim and watching too many fictional courtroom dramas, and strata councils find themselves panicking when it's time to present their case.

Mayette wants to demystify the CRT and other court processes for clients, and she does so with experience, knowledge, and empathy. Her many years working as a litigation paralegal have exposed her to people who feel a little lost and frustrated.

With strata matters, clients are often fighting for something personal, and they want to be heard. Mayette can sense how a client wants their case handled and can collaborate with them in a way that makes them comfortable and confident but also gets the job done on time and to the client's satisfaction.

### Credentials

## **Industry Involvement**

- > Amici Curiae Friendship Society, voting member, 2023 - Present
- > BC Paralegal Association, voting member, 2009 - Present
- > Legal Coaches Association, voting member, 2020 - Present
- > Law Society of British Columbia, BC Innovation Sandbox participant, 2021 - Present
- > BC Legal Management Association, past member, 2016 - 2019
- > Richmond School District, Legal Administrative Assistant Program instructor, 2008
- > Burnaby School District, Legal Administrative Assistant Program instructor, 2008

## **Community Commitments**

- > Amici Curiae Friendship Society, board member, 2023 - Present
- > Law Society of British Columbia Tribunal Chair's Roundtable, public representative, 2023 - Present
- > Amici Curiae Friendship Society, manager, 2022 - Present
- > Amici Curiae Friendship Society, volunteer, 2011 - Present
- > BC Paralegal Association, director and social media chair, 2016 - 2022
- > YWCA, high school mentorship program mentor, 2005 - 2015
- > City of Port Coquitlam, moderator for the Youth Advisory Committee, 2001 - 2006
- > New Westminster Bar Association, past volunteer for Annual Judges' Dinners

## **Education**

- > Legal Coaches Association, Legal Coaching Certification, 2020
- > Capilano University, Paralegal Diploma, 2005
- > Simon Fraser University, Bachelor of Arts (English), 2003

## **External Publications & Presentations**

- > Contributing author, How to Apply for No Court Filing Fees in BC Supreme Court (Family and Civil guides), published by Amici Curiae Friendship Society, 2022
- > Presenter, The Art of Legal Coaching seminar, Legal Coaches Association, 2022
- > Presenter, Capilano Legal Association event, 2022
- > Contributing author, My Road to the Innovation Sandbox, published by BC Paralegal Association, 2022
- > Contributing author, The CanLii Manual to British Columbia Litigation, published by CanLii, 2020
- > Contributing author, The Guide to Civil Procedure at the Supreme Court of British Columbia, published by the Law Courts Centre, 2015
- > Contributing author, Culture Club: Should the Courts Become Legal Chameleons (two-part article series), published by the Law Courts Centre, 2015
- > Contributing author, Peeking Past the Blindfold: The Impact of Culture on Self-Represented Litigants, published by the Law Courts Centre, 2014
- > Contributing author, Drafting Affidavits - Just the Relevant Facts, published by the Law Courts Centre, 2012
- > Contributing author, Drafting Applications Workshop 101, published by the Law Courts Centre, 2011

## **Awards & Distinctions**

- > Commissioner for Taking Affidavits in British Columbia, 2023 - Present