



**Case Watch:
Criminal Defendants with Dementia**

VOLUNTEER LAW STUDENTS WANTED!

The Dementia Justice Society of Canada is developing a case digest of domestic and foreign criminal law jurisprudence involving defendants with defendants. The goal is to create a publicly-available database of case summaries that is user-friendly and accessible to both legal professionals and the general public at large. Over time, we aim to eventually use the database for future research and analysis purposes at Dementia Justice. We also hope that other organizations and individuals may benefit from the centralized information.

Dementia Justice is a federally incorporated non-profit society dedicated to advancing the rights, needs and dignity of people with dementia who are, or are at risk of becoming, involved with the criminal justice system. We aim to achieve our objectives through public advocacy, awareness-raising, education, and interdisciplinary legal and policy research.

The Volunteer Role

As a law student (or graduate student in law) volunteer, you will be responsible for writing plain language case summaries on domestic and foreign criminal law jurisprudence involving criminal defendants with dementia. To start, we have a number of cases in our [Online Library](#) that can be summarised; however, you will also be expected to search for and summarise other domestic and foreign cases. Thus, a strong familiarity with legal databases such as CanLII and other WorldLII sites is an asset. A strong understanding of the criminal justice process is also essential.

This is a “virtual” position; you will work from your own computer and location.

Estimated Time Commitment

There is no set number of hours. Volunteers can work at their own pace over the term(s), as long as the deliverables (the case summaries) are completed on time. Dementia Justice will develop the research and writing schedule in consultation with project team members, so the amount of

work (e.g., the number of case summaries, the number of jurisdictions) you are assigned is flexible based on your availability.

Deadline to Apply

As this is an ongoing project with yearly updates, we are accepting applications on a rolling basis.

How to Apply

If you are interested in this volunteer position, please e-mail the following information to our director, Heather Pope, at dementiajustice@outlook.com:

- A short email explaining your interest in and/or relevant experience related to this project (e.g., elder law, mental health law, criminal law, seniors/dementia advocacy)
- 1- to 2-page writing sample (e.g., excerpt from a law course paper)
- CV
- Unofficial law school transcript

As this project covers both domestic and foreign case law, we are interested in receiving applications from students in Canada and abroad.

We thank everyone who applies; however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Interviews may be conducted by phone, and for applicants in Ottawa, in-person may be possible.