

# Ken Watkin

Ken Watkin served for 33 years in the Canadian Armed Forces, including four years as the Judge Advocate General from 2006 to 2010. In addition to his roles as a prosecutor and appellate counsel, Ken worked in operational law, training, human rights, and general legal advisory roles. Following the events of September 11, 2001, he provided operational law advice to the Army, Air Force, Navy, and Special Operations Forces throughout a significant portion of 2001 to 2010.



Watkins advised the joint civilian/military Board of Inquiry investigating the Canadian Airborne Battlegroup in Somalia in 1993, and he served as government legal counsel for inquiries and investigations related to the 1994 genocide in Rwanda. In 2010, he was appointed as a Foreign Observer for the Israeli Independent Commission investigating the Gaza blockade incident on May 31, 2010. He also held the position of Charles H. Stockton Professor of International Law at the United States Naval War College from 2011 to 2012 and has worked as a counterterrorism and national security consultant for the United Nations in Nigeria and the Canadian government.

He is the author of “Fighting at the Legal Boundaries: Controlling the Use of Force in Contemporary Conflict” (OUP, 2016), which received the 2017 Francis Lieber Prize from the American Society of International Law. Additionally, he is the co-author of “The Law in War: A Concise Overview” (Routledge, 2nd ed. 2023).