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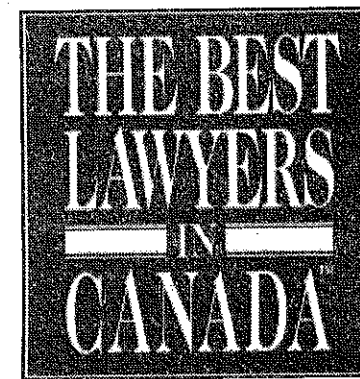
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ings. The cross-examinations on which his cases turn are exhaustive, painstaking and unexciting excisions of expert witnesses. His clients eschew violence, are rarely recidivists and tend to serve most of their sentences in comfortable minimum security institutions.

When they've done their time, some, like former hockey czar Alan Eagleson, who served six months of an 18-month sentence for fraud, remain close personal and family friends.

Although Mr. Greenspan is one of just a handful of criminal defence lawyers in Canada who can say they specialize in commercial crime, that's not to say Mr. Greenspan hasn't done it all in his 32-year rise to the top of his profession. "I did a homicide case last year just to remind myself of my roots," he says.

When Mr. Greenspan takes on what he calls "core" criminal cases, the accused tend to be celebrities. Former Toronto Maple Leaf Rob Ramage, accused of impaired driving causing death in the accident that killed former Chicago Black Hawk star Keith Magnusen, is one of his clients.

But for the most part the clients are denizens of the corporate world. The list includes Myron Gottlieb, co-accused with Garth Drabinsky in the Livent scandal; Douglas Dunsmuir, former CEO of Royal Technologies; Andrew Rankin, the former RBC Capital takeover specialist convicted of "tipping"; Boaz Manor, co-founder of the failed Portus Alternative Asset Management Inc.; Robert Waxman, formerly a director of Philip Services Corp.; and Armour Pharmaceutical Co., charged in the tainted blood scandal.

All these are huge files, distinguished from typical criminal law briefs by their length and complexity. The Waxman trial will go on for at least three months. The Livent preliminary hearing took four months and the trial is expected to be much longer. The Armour preliminary hearing started on Feb. 6, 2006, and, except for a seven-week summer break, is still continuing and not expected to finish until well into 2007.

"In most areas of criminal practice, you can do your cases as a lone wolf, with perhaps the marginal assistance of a student," Mr. Greenspan says. "But on commercial crime cases, you need a team consisting of at least

That's one of the reasons the lawyer with 31 years at the bar.