

## KENNETH ZAIFMAN

I graduated from law school in 1975 and articulated with Richardson & Company, a well-established Winnipeg law firm. After my call to the bar in 1976, I joined Kopstein Kimmelman & Co. (known for its pathway to the Bench, a path which eluded me), although that part of my career remains a bit hazy. My practice consisted mainly of criminal law defence work.

On one fine day in 1979, William Kenyon Cole stumbled into our office looking for a lawyer to stop his deportation from Canada. R. v. Cole<sup>1</sup> was my first immigration case and the rest, as they say, is history.

I started my own firm, Zaifman Associates, in 1986, with two employees (and no associates). I now have a staff of 15 including four other lawyers and continue to practice exclusively in the area of immigration law. Along the way, I became involved with the Canadian Bar Association (Past Chair), American Immigration Lawyer's Association (Past Chair), Manitoba Bar Association (Past Chair), International Bar Association and, my favourite, the Inter-Pacific Bar Association (meetings in New Zealand, conferences in Singapore).

I married Mira Thow in 1988, who is also a lawyer and works with me and is the brains of the operation. We have two daughters, Lea (12 years) and Anna (10 years). Between work, travel, and family, life is hectic but, so far, so good.

Email: [kzaifman@zaifmanlaw.com](mailto:kzaifman@zaifmanlaw.com)

Website: <http://www.pureimmigration.com>

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<sup>1</sup> R. v. Cole, reported at:  
(1980) 115 D.L.R. (3d) 382, [1980] 2 W.W.R. 673 – Manitoba Provincial Judges' Criminal Division