

KERUSHA PILLAY

ADVOCATE OF THE HIGH COURT OF SOUTH AFRICA

A. LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Kerusha is a practising member of the Johannesburg Society of Advocates and holds chambers in the Duma Nokwe Group of Advocates in Sandton, Johannesburg. She is also an associate member of the KwaZulu-Natal Society of Advocates and holds door membership in Group 2 in Pietermaritzburg.

During the past thirteen years in practice she gained experience in commercial litigation including shareholder and governance disputes, contractual disputes, defamation, municipal law, mining law, mining tax law, constitutional law, administrative law, insolvency law and business rescue. She recently delivered virtual lectures in insolvency law and business rescue.

Kerusha is committed to sustainable transformation of the legal profession and served in leadership positions on the regional structures of the National Association of Democratic Lawyers (NADEL) and Advocates for Transformation (AFT). She also served as a representative of AFT on the Bar Councils in both KwaZulu – Natal and Johannesburg.

Kerusha's involvement in assisting aspirant advocates includes serving as a member of the pupillage committee in Pietermaritzburg and Johannesburg. During her tenure as a member of the Johannesburg Bar's Pupillage Committee, she designed, coordinated and implemented the diversity and inclusion programme for pupil advocates. In addition, she mentored two pupils in Johannesburg, Adv. Du Plooy and Adv. Makubela.

B. CREDENTIALS

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor of Art (Media and Communication and English)(University of KwaZulu-Natal)
- Bachelor of Laws (University of KwaZulu -Natal)
- Advanced Programme in Insolvency Litigation, Administration and Practice)(University of Pretoria)

- Short Course in Business Rescue (University of South Africa)
- Certified Mediator (Arbitration Foundation of Southern Africa and University of Pretoria)
- Women in Leadership (University of Stellenbosch: Business School)
- Leading Diversity and Inclusion at Work (University of Cape Town)

MEMBERSHIPS OF VOLUNTARY BAR ASSOCIATIONS

- Johannesburg Society of Advocates
- KwaZulu – Natal Society of Advocates
- Pan African Bar Association

MEMBERSHIPS OF VOLUNTARY LEGAL ASSOCIATIONS

- National Association of Democratic Lawyers
- Advocates for Transformation
- South African Association of Insolvency Practitioners
- INSOL International

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Represented South African cricket player, Kgagiso Rabada in a hearing before the International Cricket Council
- Represented Musi Maimane’s One South Africa Movement in challenging the constitutionality of the lockdown regulations pertaining to the reopening of schools at the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic;
- Represented the United Democratic Movement and General Batu Holomisa in opposing various defamation applications;
- Represented the Swaziland News (Pty) Ltd in opposing various applications pertaining to defamation and press freedom, instituted by King Mswati III and Prince Dlamini, respectively;
- Represented the Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality in an application pertaining to the grant of an environmental authorization for property development adjacent to an operational gold tailings mine;

- Represented two national women in mining investment companies in litigation pertaining to share disputes, the computation of dividends, governance disputes and regulatory compliance;
- Represented the South African Revenue Services in the interpretation of a tax statute pertaining to the imposition of mining tax;
- Represented a shareholder in a dispute against an investment company pertaining to share disputes, governance disputes, the disposal of assets and regulatory compliance

C. WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

Kerusha believes strongly in the innate strength and value that women contribute, both in their personal capacity and in the workplace.

She is a member of the Advisory Board of WiMBIZ, a non-profit company that aims to amplify the voice of female entrepreneurs, businesswomen and professional women and enable them to access opportunities in the mining sector in Africa.

She is also a member of the South African Advisory Council of G100, an association of 100 women leaders from across the world, that provide thought leadership on advocacy, awareness and impact across governments and organisations for a gender equal future.

Kerusha's motto is: *"A woman's ability to create life is testimony of a woman's ability to achieve anything she sets her mind to."*

D. COMMUNICATIONS EXPERIENCE

Kerusha is the founder and creative director of Inspiring Legal Minds, an online media platform, that imparts invaluable advice from legal practitioners and business leaders with the goal of inspiring the future generation of lawyers to achieve the pinnacle of success.

Having grown up in a family of lawyers, Inspiring Legal Minds shares interviews with lawyers that inspired Kerusha during her formative years and during her practice. Mindful of the legacy of colonialism, slavery and apartheid in South Africa, and its adverse impact on the legal profession, the platform has a special focus on diversity and inclusion.