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| Chetna Singh  Terra Nova, Trichardt, Mpumalanga 2280 ▪ 082-095-0045 ▪ [singhchets@gmail.com](mailto:singhchets@gmail.com)  Personal Details  Nationality: South Africa ▪ ID Number: 8403220254088 ▪ Gender: Female  Civil Status: Single ▪ Languages: English | Afrikaans | isiZulu | Hindi |

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|  | Magistrate |  Litigation Specialist |  |
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Charismatic legal professional with extensive experience driving criminal litigation matters in High and Regional Courts, and sound comprehension of commercial law and family law. Recognised project leader; proven record directing multiple projects, facilitating thought leadership, and building, engaging with and mentoring teams. Proficient in establishing committees, outlining and managing resources, and writing strategic plans and legal strategies, documents, contracts, reports and proposals. Repeated success presiding over criminal trials, maintenance, domestic violence and harassment hearings and applications, debt review and ancillary applications, bail applications, eviction and execution hearings and Children’s Court matters. Collaborative decision-maker, critical thinker and problem-solver with meticulous mind-set and excellent research, management, communication and interpersonal talents; highly skilled in delivering expert legal counsel to strengthen client’s legal standing, developing and supporting women and youth, combatting crime and promoting justice.

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|  | Career Experience |  |
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**ADDITIONAL MAGISTRATE | PUBLIC OFFICE BEARER**, Evander – Mpumalanga 2018 – Present

* **Significantly reduced workload of courts** by directing operations of criminal courts, family courts and civil court, and leveraging in-depth knowledge of inter alia, Criminal Procedure Act, The Firearms Control Act, Drugs and Drug Trafficking Act, Criminal Law Amendment Act (SORMA), Magistrates Court Act and rules, Wills Act, Administration of Estates Act, PIE Act and National Credit Act when presiding in all three.
* **Improved efficiency across various divisions including Maintenance Court and Civil Court** by actively supporting Civil Procedure, initiating improvements and monitoring for and ensuring thorough hearings.
* **Amplified workmanship quality across both courts and avoided bottleneck of applications** by directing investigations at maintenance court, training maintenance clerks and investigator, resolving financial disputes and increasing finalisation rate of maintenance enquiries through consent orders.
* **Boosted communications and administrative functions of Civil Court** by hosting pre-trial conferences with attorneys, conducting extensive legal research in preparation for motion court and training civil clerks to facilitate efficient running of civil court operations and drive liaisons between attorneys and magistrate.
* **Maximised application of bail proceedings in criminal court, previously not done before** by providing staff training on completion of government forms thorough applications including enforcement of correct application of law and facilitation procedure.

**ACTING MAGISTRATE - PIETERMARITZBURG | PUBLIC OFFICE BEARER**, District Court – KZN 2014 –2017

* **Built high performing judicial workplace** by overseeing, guiding and motivating personnel and efficiently fulfilling judicial commitments and related administrative functions.
* **Strengthened efficiency of criminal section at G Court** by expertly presiding over criminal trials in open court entailing robbery, aggravated robbery, theft, assault, assault GBH and crimen injuria, processing bail applications as required and tracking daily statistics of court.
* **Achieved smooth execution of Child Justice Act** by establishing sub-committee to address issues related to Child Justice Act and Preliminary Inquiry proceedings entailing terms of reference for meeting and review of legislation and regulations, partnering with NPA, clerks of court and NGO’s to overcome obstacles and submitting representations towards Commentary on Child Justice Act Authors.
* **Optimised decision-making on Child Justice** by serving on Kwazulu Natal Provincial Child Justice Forum and acting as sole Inquiry Magistrate.
* **Improved public image of magistrates and magistracy as token of nobility equipped to uphold values not afforded at Home Affairs** by serving as marriage officer, providing solid insights on Matrimonial Property Act and facilitating multiple civil ceremonies offering parties dignified ceremony at venue of choice.

**ATTORNEY**, Surendra Singh and Associates - KZN 2007 – 2014

* **Grew company operations and revenues** by leading all operations to develop and open branch in Durban.
* **Maximised client’s representation during criminal and civil litigations and legal transactions and proceedings**by skilfully managing and advising clients on legal matters including the Gerald Rosellotti rape and murder case and farm murder case of Lorraine Karg and drafting and reviewing legal documents.
* **Defended accused during rape, armed robbery and murder trials at both the High and Regional Courts** by traveling to multiple areas including Mathubathuba, Ramsgate, Ladysmith and Newcastle and serving on judicare panel through Legal Aid South Africa.
* **Recovered unsettled rentals** by utilising strong grasp of commercial law to effectively oversee pipeline of tenants, prepare lease agreements and contracts and drive efforts to sue when required.
* **Enhanced outcomes of domestic-violence cases** by leveraging solid knowledge of family law to win cases.
* **Swiftly resolved road accident fund matters** by providing oversight of Road Accident Fund (RAF) section.

*\*\*\* Additional Experience as:* ***Managing Director*** *with Kwazulu Afrika Trading* ***leading call centre start-up operations from the ground up****, and* ***Candidate Attorney*** *with Surendra Singh and Associates \*\*\**

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|  | Education |  |
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**LL.M in Advanced Criminal Justice** | University of Kwazulu Natal

**LLB** | University of KwaZulu Natal (UKZN)

Certification

Women in Leadership – Online Course | University of Stellenbosch Business School | 2021

Certificate Course in Advance Insolvency Litigation and Practice | University of Pretoria (UP) | Expected 2021

Social Context Course | South African Judicial Education Institute (SAJEI) | 2019

Inquest Course | SAJEI | 2019

Cybercrimes Seminar | Legal Education and Development (LEAD) | 2017

Medical Law – Introductory Course (Online) | Legal Education and Development (LEAD) | 2017

Significant Leadership Programme for Women Lawyers | Calibrics, Prof. Jean Marie | 2017

Professional Development

Crime Skills Workshop | 2019

Criminal Court Skills Training | 2018

Children’s Court Workshop | 2018

Presentation | Conferences | Seminars

Presented Paper on Maintenance at Dialogue, Hosted by Minister in the Presidency for Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities in Partnership with UN Women | 2019

Attended Annual Conference of South African Chapter of International Association of Women Judges | 2019

Presented Seminar on Preliminary Inquiry as it Works within Child Justice Act to Acting Magistrates | 2017

Opening Address at Significant Leadership Programme for Women Lawyers | 2017

Annual Speaker | Northdale Primary Grade 7 Career Day | 2016 – 2017

Professional Affiliations

Member: Judicial Officers Association of South Africa (JOASA) | Current

Member: IAWJ SA Chapter | International Association of Women Judges | Current

Member: Criminological Member of South Africa (CRIMSA) | 2016 – Present

Trustee | Mont Blanc Body Corporate | 2011 – 2013