

ADV. NIRESH LOOPOO

PROFILE

My preferred areas of practice include: **General Litigation (Action and Motion) *inter alia*, Local Government, Evictions, Interdicts, Insolvency, Labour Law, Review Applications, Arbitration, Disciplinary Proceedings, Contractual Disputes, Property Law, Public Procurement Law, Various Investigations and Urgent Matters.**

I have over 6 years' experience as an Attorney in various spheres of law including commercial law, criminal law, sports law, labour law, local government, public procurement law and property law dispute resolution.

On 22 July 2021 I was admitted as an Advocate of the High Court of South Africa. I was called to the Bar in 2021, and I am a member of the Johannesburg Society of Advocates practicing in Sandton.

Prior to joining the Bar, I was employed at the City of Joburg Property Company (SOC) Ltd (**JPC**) as a Legal Manager: Compliance. JPC is mandated to manage and develop the property portfolio of the City of Johannesburg Metropolitan Municipality (**COJ**). JPC is the COJ's property development arm. Its *raison d'être* is the provision of all property and related services to COJ.

As a Legal Manager I harnessed my leadership skills by managing large-scale projects to successful completion. One such example was the Mayor of COJ (Inner City Rejuvenation Project) which was completed within budget, on time, and with the best client service. I was involved in negotiating and drafting legal binding agreements relating to the relevant business unit(s). I provided legal assistance and assessment of compliance matters in line with relevant legislation relating to the business and the COJ property portfolio, including associated legal report submissions. I facilitated programs and all matters associated with conveyancing matters. I assisted with communication, representation (including litigation), consultation and liaison with key stakeholders and clients at the JPC. I liaised with attorneys and advocates to ensure timeous reaction to and the institution of court actions/applications. I processed access to information and promote administrative justice queries.

I served my Articles of Clerkship at Legal Aid South Africa, completed all four Board Exams, and passed the Bookkeeping course with distinction. In August 2014, I was admitted as an Attorney of the High Court of South Africa. While serving my Articles of Clerkship I was afforded invaluable exposure to the legal profession including a thorough understanding of the Magistrates and High Court Rules, the interpretation of various statutes as well as an understanding of the intricacies of both Civil and Criminal Litigation.

I have a strong work ethic and strive for continued excellence. I have strong communication skills which I have demonstrated throughout my career. I am initiative orientated with a commitment to justice.

CONTACT DETAILS

Niresh Loopoo
Advocate of the High Court of South Africa
Member of the Johannesburg Bar
Telephone: (011) 895 9000
Cell: 078 893 9998
Email: loopoo@adv21.co.za

Advocates Group 21
Sandown Village
1st Floor, Village Chambers
Cnr Maude and Gwen Lane
Sandown, Sandton

EDUCATION, QUALIFICATIONS & CERTIFICATIONS

DESCRIPTION	DATE
Member of the Johannesburg Society of Advocates	December 2021
Advocate of the High Court of South Africa	July 2021
Pupil Member of the Johannesburg Society of Advocates	January 2021
Certificate of Competence (Effective Interpersonal Skills), University of Witwatersrand	2019
Attorney of the High Court of South Africa	August 2014 to July 2021
LLM credits in Copyright Law, Patent Law and Trademark Law, University of South Africa	January 2013
Certificate in Sports Law, University of Pretoria	January 2012
Bachelor of Laws (LLB), University of South Africa	2007 to January 2011
Matric, Marist Brothers, Linmeyer	2006

COMPETENCIES & SKILLS

- High proficiency and extensive use of Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, and PowerPoint)
- Extensive knowledge of the Magistrate's and High Court Rules of South Africa
- Experience and extensive knowledge of Civil and Criminal Litigation
- Experience with the Property Sector
- Extensive knowledge of Group Governance and Supply Chain Management Processes in the Public Sector (Municipal Finance Management Act No. 56 of 2003)
- Exposure to other various legal practices or disciplines
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Ability to work in a team structure
- Problem solving and decision-making

WORK EXPERIENCE

1. **January 2015 to December 2020, City of Joburg Property Company (SOC) Limited, Legal Manager: Compliance**
Experience: Property development, property asset and facilities management, Procurement of land, goods and services

2. **January 2013 to November 2014, Legal Aid of South Africa, Candidate Attorney (Jan 2013 to Sep 2014) and District Court Professional Assistant (Oct 2014 to Nov 2014)**

I have acquired experience in the practice of an attorney by independently handling matters and by working under the supervision of my principal. I have gained experience, *inter alia*, in the following areas of legal practice:

- **Criminal law:** Consultation with clients in criminal matters; research; representing clients in various criminal court trial procedures; including bail applications, trials in court and drafting representations to the State prosecutor and thus obtaining a good working knowledge of the Magistrates' Court Rules as well as the interpretation of various statutes.
- **Magistrates' Court civil procedure:** Magistrates court civil procedure in both defended and undefended matters, including the drafting of pleadings, notices and applications; the drafting of affidavits; the preparation for trial; negotiations including settlement negotiations; consultation with witnesses; conducting research on matters in the jurisdiction of the Magistrates Court; obtaining a good working knowledge of the Magistrates court rules.
- **High Court civil procedure:** High court civil procedure in both trial and application matters; consultations with witnesses and clients; the completion of briefs and instructions to Counsel; drafting of pleadings; negotiations including settlement negotiations; preparing for trial; collating, paginating and indexing of court papers; assisting Counsel and obtaining a good working knowledge of the High court rules.
- **General:** Research, opinion work and letter writing and serving and filing of documents; drafting of affidavits and pleadings; practice management, diarizing of files and general file management; taking instructions and consulting with clients; research work on a variety of aspects; interpretation of various statutes; the drafting of pleadings; working knowledge of Civil Litigation; the administration of an Attorney's practice; furnishing of legal opinions and advice in various areas of the Law.

LEADERSHIP ROLES

In my previous position, as a Legal Manager at JPC, I have been involved in a mentorship programme. The legal services department at JPC employed four mentees holding a LLB or similar degree. My role as a mentor entailed assisting the candidates with interpreting and applying the legal principles in any given case and by assisting with any challenges they may encounter. I also provided feedback to the mentees.

From January 2007 to December 2011, I was a sports coach for the primary school students at Marist Brothers, Linmeyer. I coached the sporting codes of cricket, soccer, and athletics. My duties entailed supervising primary school children, preparing, and implementing pre and post coaching sessions. I had to ensure a safe environment for the children and respond to safe-guarding issues. I developed the participant's physical and psychological fitness.

TRANSFORMATION INITIATIVES

I have participated in several initiatives personally and through my employment at Legal Aid South Africa ("**LASA**") and at JPC such as:

- In 2020 I started tutoring a person by the name of Refiloe Matshidiso Mosele, who is registered at Unisa and studying towards a LLB degree. I have tutored her on the Law of Criminal Procedure on a *pro bono* basis.
- During my working experience I have briefed and instructed female and male (African, Coloured and Indian) legal representatives (advocates and attorneys) in promoting transformation.
- Mandela day 2013 -2019 – At JPC, I have shared 67 minutes of my time and we donated various food, clothing and blankets to old age and children's homes in and around the City of Johannesburg. During my time at LASA I spoke to the elderly and young about the legal services offered.
- Women's day 2015 – 2019 – At JPC, we donated sanitary pads to various homes and schools and in 2019 our CEO's aim was to donate 50000 sanitary pads.
- Santa shoe box 2015 – 2019 – At JPC, we donated essential items and treats to various underprivileged children's homes in and around the City of Johannesburg.
- Youth day 2013 -2014 – At LASA I was the key driver and organiser whereby the Candidate Attorneys of that year attended places of safety for children in Soweto to educate them of their socio-economic rights from the Constitution.
- During my time at LASA in 2013 and 2014, I have provided high quality legal services and professional advice to the indigent and those who could not afford private attorneys. I have represented all my clients with passion and compassion, obtaining many favourable results. I have also participated in "prison clinics" whereby Legal Aid employees attend prison (Johannesburg Correctional Centre) to educate prisoners of their rights as well as bail and appeal procedures.