# **Christine Mugenyu**

Senior Associate



Christine Mugenyu is a Senior Associate in our Dispute Resolution and Employment Law practice areas.

# **About Christine**

Christine began her career as a volunteer at Kituo cha Sheria in 2015. In 2017, she joined in law firm in Kenya as a Legal Trainee and was appointed as an Associate in 2018. She joined Kieti Advocates LLP in 2020. Christine was promoted to Senior Associate in April 2022.

# **Credentials**

# **Education**

- LLB (Second Class Upper Honours), University of Nairobi
- Certified Secretary (CS) (Part I-III)
- International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) Certified Tribunal Secretary (2021)
- Certified Professional Mediator CPM (MTI) (2021)

# **Memberships**

- Law Society of Kenya
- Young Members Group (YMG), CIArb Kenya

# **Experience**

· Legal advice

Assisting in successfully acting for Uchumi Supermarkets in applying for the approval of the Company's Voluntary. Arrangement (CVA) to the High Court of Kenya. The first application of its kind to be made in Kenya under the Insolvency Act, 2015.

# **Contact Christine**

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# **Expertise**

Dispute Resolution

**Employment Law** 

Corporate Debt, Turnaround & Restructuring

Mediation

# Location

Nairobi

# Language

English

Swahili



# Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr | Christine Mugenyu

#### · Legal advice

Involved in acting for Hoggers Limited (a company in administration) by advising the company on the administration process, options available at the end of the administration and also filing the appropriate applications before the High Court of Kenya.

#### · Legal advice

Successfully defending a senior employee against contempt proceedings filed in an ongoing employment dispute before the Employment and Labour Relations Court.

#### Legal advice

Advising a local investigative and in-depth journalism production house on a defamation claim.

#### · Legal advice

Defending a local company in arbitration proceedings for a claim of approximately KES 1 Million.

#### Legal advice

Successfully acting for various local companies in debt recovery claims.

#### Legal advice

Involved in the successful negotiation of numerous out of court settlements resulting in the resolution of court cases.

#### Legal advice

Successfully defending leading banking institutions in opposing applications for injunctions seeking to interfere with the exercise of the right to statutory power of sale.

#### · Legal advice

Advising various private and multinational companies on employment law matters relating to work injury claims, wrongful dismissal, termination, and redundancies.

#### Legal advice

Advising leading insurance companies in prosecuting and defending of negligence claims on behalf of their insured.

# **News**

## Lender's victory: Essential strategies for effective security enforcement

On 11 November 2024, the High Court in East African Cables PLC v Equity Bank (Kenya) Limited KEHC 14009 (KLR) delivered a ruling that reaffirmed the strong position of secured creditors in enforcing security. When East African Cables PLC (the borrower) defaulted on a KES 1.7 billion loan that was granted to it by Equity Bank (the bank), the court upheld the bank's right to exercise its statutory power of sale over the charged properties despite the borrower's attempts to block the process. This ruling reinforces key legal principles regarding the enforceability of different types of security and offers valuable lessons for lenders on how to navigate borrower disputes and ensure smooth enforcement of their rights.

### Avoid costly mistakes: Why formal agreements are critical in mutual separations

What happens when a resignation is agreed upon without the clarity of a formal written agreement? The recent case of Mwenda v Afri Business LLP and Another KEELRC 2346 highlights the potential legal minefield employers face when mutual separations are not documented properly. While the court ruled in favour of the employer, the lack of a formal agreement nearly turned the tide in favour of the claimant. This case serves as a stark reminder that in employment matters, especially separations, formality and clarity are key to protecting your business from unnecessary disputes.

#### Liquidation of Tuskys Supermarket: A case of too little too late

On 31 May 2023, Justice Majanja issued a judgment that marked an end to the restructuring efforts of Tuskys Supermarket after a three-year court battle. It was another classic example of an attempt to restructure a company's debt at the tail end of a distress cycle rather than at the early stages when the chances of recovery are higher.



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#### How employers in Kenya can successfully manage the redundancy process

Declaration of redundancy is a managerial prerogative driven by business operations and market dynamics. This being a strategic business decision, the courts are reluctant to interfere unless it is sufficiently demonstrated that there was no valid and or justifiable reason for the redundancy.

#### How companies may mitigate claims for unfair termination by non-executive directors

What happens when a company does not define the type of engagement of a director? Can a director claim to be an employee of the company? How can companies mitigate against claims from non-executive directors for employee benefits, and protection?

# **Videos**

#### Webinar Recording | Workplace harassment in Africa Obligations of an employer

In this webinar, our presenters explored the duties and obligations of employers.

# **Podcasts**

#### Accelerate Action in the legal industry through mentorship and leadership - Part 3

As we draw to the close of International Women's Day Month, we invite you to listen to Part 3 of our CDH Women Empowerment Podcast Series — Accelerating Change in the Legal Industry Through Mentorship & Leadership.

#### A New Era for BPO services? The evolving landscape from the proposed Business Laws (Amendment) Bill 2024

Regulation of Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) became the focus owing to the recent determination in the case of Samasource EPZ Limited t/a Sama v Meta Platforms, Incorporated & 186 Others; Kenya Human Rights Commission & 8 Others (Interested Parties) KECA 1152 (KLR).

#### A new normal for redundancy notices? The A-Z of redundancies in light of new jurisprudential guidance from the ELRC

Redundancy is common among employers who seek to restructure their businesses. It is one way of terminating a contract of employment other than through dismissal or retirement.

#### Redundancy in Employment Law

Well-versed in Dispute Resolution, Employment Law, and Business Rescue, Restructuring & Insolvency, Christine Mugenyu in our Nairobi office shares her view on successfully managing the redundancy process with Channel Africa.

#### Fixed term contracts - What they don't tell you

A fixed term contract is a contract of service for a specified period of time. Despite having a clear end date, the Courts in Kenya have held that there are certain instances that an employee can have a legitimate expectation of the renewal of the contract.

All news by Christine Mugenyu  $\rightarrow$ 

