

Brigitta Mangale

Director



Brigitta Mangale is a Director in the Pro Bono & Human Rights Practice. Brigitta is responsible for the management of the firm's Cape Town based Practice, as well as overseeing the Cape Town office's pro bono matters and CSR contributions.

About Brigitta

Brigitta is passionate about the advancement of women's rights and women's issues and is building a specialization in this area. She is also passionate about the enforcement and development of land rights. She is currently pursuing a constitutional challenge to legislation with a view to promote and extend the protection afforded to victims of all forms of sexual abuse. She is also separately pursuing a constitutional challenge to legislation with the intention to develop our law in a manner that appropriately extends the recognition of informal and indigenous land rights. Brigitta's practice also includes matters focused on community development and upliftment, and the promotion of meaningful transformation, all of which include human rights and public interest imperatives.

Brigitta was appointed Director in 2022.

Credentials

Education

- LLB UCT (2011)

News

Reflecting on Human Rights Day and Freedom Day: The Cases of Omotoso and Cwecwe

We celebrate Human Rights Day on 21 March to commemorate the Sharpeville Massacre of 1960 and to signify the nation's unanimous commitment to protecting and upholding the rights contained in the Bill of Rights. On 27 April, we celebrate Freedom Day to commemorate our first post-apartheid elections and to celebrate our constitutional dispensation. Yet, despite these objectives, there are members of our society who face more obstacles than others in the enjoyment of their rights.

Upholding human rights all year round

At CDH, we recognise the responsibility we have to promote access to justice and safeguard basic human rights.

Contact Brigitta

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Expertise

[Pro Bono & Human Rights](#)

Location

Cape Town

Language

English

[The profound reach and impact of our Pro Bono & Human Rights practice in 2024](#)

At CDH we are committed to promoting human rights, enabling access to justice and driving meaningful change. This is why we set up a dedicated Pro Bono & Human Rights Practice (Pro Bono Practice), which provides thousands of hours of pro bono assistance to numerous deserving individuals and organisations each year. In 2024 alone, our firm dedicated over 10,000 hours to providing more than R37 million in pro bono legal services to individuals, organisations, and causes.

[The National Register for Sex Offenders: Nowhere left to hide](#)

On 18 November 2024 the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) released and handed over to the Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities (DWYPD) a groundbreaking national study on gender-based violence (GBV), which revealed the extent of the crisis that continues to devastate individuals and communities across our country. It showed, among other things, that 33,1% of women in South Africa aged 18 years and older had experienced physical violence in their lifetime – which translates to an estimated 7,310,389 women – and that 9,9% of women had experienced sexual violence in their lifetime, which translates to 2,150,342 women across the country.

[A force for justice: A fierce approach to upholding Human Rights in South Africa](#)

Brigitta Mangale, Director, and Elgene Roos, Senior Associate in the Pro Bono & Human Rights practice, were recently featured in Public Sector Leaders in an article titled "A force for justice: A fierce approach to upholding Human Rights in South Africa."

Videos

[A guide on how to apply for a protection order in terms of the Domestic Violence Act 116 of 1998](#)

Today marks the commemorative close of 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence

[The Embrace Project](#)

"As we continue to stand in solidarity with the activists of the inauguration of the Women's Global Leadership Institute in 1991, we take a moment to reflect on what has been achieved through collective commitment and resilience in building a safer South Africa for all" says Brigitta Mangale, Director Pro Bono & Human Rights and Caitlin Freddy, Candidate Attorney Pro Bono & Human Rights.

[Video | The significant impact of our Pro Bono & Human Rights practice](#)

As we commemorate Human Rights Day on Thursday, 21 March, one of the ways CDH demonstrates our commitment to the transformation of our society is through our dedicated Pro Bono & Human Rights Practice. We provide pro bono representation of the highest standard to deserving individuals, communities, NGOs and other organisations that promote human rights or the public interest.

Podcasts

[Reflecting on Freedom Day: Are our children free?](#)

South Africa celebrates Freedom Day on 27 April each year, honouring the date of our first democratic elections in 1994. However, more than 30 years later, there is no doubt that freedom is not equally enjoyed by all.

[Accelerate Action – The state of gender equality in the African legal sector – Part 2](#)

In celebration of International Women's Day, we gathered a powerhouse panel of women in law to discuss the evolving role of women in the African legal sector.

[Addressing GBV Injustices in the Criminal Justice System](#)

Brigitta Mangale, Director in the Pro Bono & Human Rights Practice, joined Elvis Presslin on SAfm to discuss 'Addressing GBV Injustices in the Criminal Justice System.'

Justice and Public Interest on the Mic – Episode 1

Since 2011, Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr's (CDH) Pro Bono & Human Rights Practice (Pro Bono Practice) has been at the heart of our firm's commitment to making a real difference.

30 years of democracy: A conversation on the role of business and civil society

The upcoming Freedom Day on 27 April 2024 marks 30 years since our country's first democratic vote. In this episode, produced in commemoration of Freedom Day, CDH Pro Bono & Human Rights Director, Brigitta Mangale sits down with 4 inspiring women dedicated to making a positive contribution in their local communities and to human rights awareness in all spaces.

[All news by Brigitta Mangale →](#)