

# Reece May

Senior Associate



Reece May is a Senior Associate in our Competition Law practice. Reece specialises in a range of competition law matters and has experience in national, foreign and regional mergers, prohibited practices (cartels and abuse of dominance) and competition law compliance. Reece also does work involving the Consumer Protection Act and has a litigation background.

## About Reece

Reece began his legal career as a candidate attorney with Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr in 2017 where he became an associate in 2019. After studying a LLM in Amsterdam, Reece rejoined as an Associate in 2021 and was appointed Senior Associate in 2022.

## Credentials

### Experience

- LLB (Cum Laude) – University of Pretoria
- LLM (Commercial Law) – University of Cape Town
- LLM (European Competition Law & Regulation) (Cum Laude) – University of Amsterdam
- Registered with the Legal Practice Council

### Memberships

- Attorney of the High Court of South Africa
- Notary Public of the High Court of South Africa
- Member of the Association of Competition Law Practitioners South Africa (Junior Chapter EXCO)

## Experience

- Drafting pleadings and representing packaging industry firms in opposed consideration application regarding a prohibited merger.
- Drafting pleadings and representing a South African bank in an exception hearing before the Competition Appeal Court for an alleged international foreign exchange cartel.

## Contact Reece

+27 (0)11 562 1747

+27 (0)72 411 6611

[reece.may@cdhlegal.com](mailto:reece.may@cdhlegal.com)

[Reece on LinkedIn](#)

## Expertise

[Competition Law](#)

[Consumer Protection](#)

## Location

Johannesburg

## Language

Afrikaans

English

- Drafting merger notifications and conditions compliance reports in COMESA, Zambia, Namibia, Botswana, Tanzania and Mozambique in the private equity, motor vehicle, retail, engineering and real estate sectors.
- Drafting merger notification and representing a target firm in a large merger before the Competition Tribunal setting precedent on the approach to consider public interest factors under the amended Competition Act.
- Representing fire protection company and attending hearing before the Competition Appeal Court to oppose bid-rigging cartel prosecution.
- Drafting various South African large and intermediate merger notifications in the security, investment, freight forwarding, investment advisory, banking, fast food, engineering, agriculture, renewable energy, battery, insurance, fishing, automotive and medical apparatus sectors. Engaging on and negotiating conditions to address various public interest issues including employment and HDP ownership.
- Representing an equipment rental firm to oppose price fixing allegations in a case involving the publication of a rates guide by an industry association.
- Advising internet search firm in responding to the Commission's Media and Digital Platforms Market Inquiry.
- Drafting pleadings and opposing an abuse of dominance interim interdict lodged against supermarket chain.
- Representing a bank in cartel investigation into alleged fixing of mortgage and prime rates.
- Assisting to draft Heads of Argument and preparation for closing arguments in South Africa's first tying Abuse of Dominance case.
- Advising bank on the competition risks associated with vehicle financing alliance agreements with OEMs and vehicle dealerships.
- Drafting large merger notification for listed life insurance merger transaction.
- Advising association of the competition risks associated with an employee no poach term in its rules.
- Drafting opinions and providing consumer protection law advice to clients regarding online gambling activities, cloning of pharmaceutical products, franchise agreements and promotional competitions.
- Conducting research and drafting abuse of dominance complaint in the securities depository and leisure weapons sector.
- Drafting dawn raid policies and providing dawn raid training.
- Advising various firms on the merger notifiability of transactions, joint ventures and corporate restructures.
- Drafting merger filing and representing target in a listed fishing merger transaction.
- Advising clients on the merits of a proposed 2-to-1 merger in the security sector.
- Conducting regulatory due diligences in the automotive, paint, retail apparel and gifting sectors.

## News

### [Competition and pricing algorithms: Can your machines violate competition law without you knowing?](#)

In his acceptance speech for the Nobel Prize for peace in 1921, Christian Lange said that " technology is a useful servant but a dangerous master ". More than a 100 years later this statement is more relevant than ever. In a world where more commercial decisions are left in the 'hands' of automated decision-makers, this raises the question of whether these decisions can result in their human masters unknowingly contravening competitionlaw.

### Competition in the digital age: Can breaching data privacy laws also infringe competition law?

The old adage that knowledge is power has never been more applicable than in the digital age. The more firms know about their market, economic factors and customers, the more likely they are to succeed. This drive for data accumulation raises questions of whether such practices can, in addition to potentially violating data protection laws, be a transgression under competition law?

### The regulation of joint ventures under the Competition Act: Is your joint venture compliant with the Competition Act?

Joint ventures (JVs) are difficult to define from a legal perspective, compared to partnerships where our courts have laid down the essential elements. Often the layman may liken a JV to a partnership, but this is not necessarily the case. The Competition Act 89 of 1998 (Act) recognises a partnership as a firm but, because of their fluid nature, JVs may either be conducted through a legal entity (such as company) or they may constitute a looser arrangement between the parent firms. It is this fluidity, coupled with the contact points between the parent firms as a result of the JV, that makes JVs important to monitor from a competition law risk perspective.

### When there is no thread of evidence: Inferential reasoning in cartel cases clarified by the Competition Appeal Court in alleged blanket cartel

On 17 December 2021, the Competition Appeal Court (CAC) handed down its judgment in Aranda Textile Mills (Pty) Ltd & Mzansi Blanket Supplies (Pty) Ltd v the Competition Commission of South Africa CAC Case No: 190/CAC/DEC20 where it clarified what must be proved to establish a cartel case based on circumstantial evidence and inferential reasoning.

### The legal do's and don'ts of being a social influencer: What does COMESA say?

It has never been easier to generate income simply by expressing who you are. Social media platforms have given people from all corners of the globe the opportunity to connect and broadcast their lives, interests and content in exchange for monetary rewards. However, with this (influencer) power comes great responsibility.

## Podcasts

### The legal do's and don'ts for influencers, according to COMESA

Social media has offered ordinary people the opportunity to make extraordinary income through influencer marketing, but what are some of the legal do's and don'ts for influencers, according to COMESA

### When the neighbouring building developer plans ruin your scenery

Dispute Resolution Director, Joe Whittle & Associate, Reece May joined Classic FM to discuss what building owners should do when the neighbouring building developer plans ruin your scenery.

[All news by Reece May →](#)

## Recognition

- The Legal 500 EMEA 2023 recommended Reece for competition.