

Reece May

Director



Reece May is a Director 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.

Reece was appointed as a Director in April 2025.

Credentials

Education

- 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

- South African Merger Control – Multi Sector Experience

Drafting various South African large and intermediate merger notifications in the security, investment / finance, freight forwarding, banking, fast food, engineering, agriculture, renewable energy, real estate, aviation, packaging, recycling, pharmaceuticals, insurance, battery, fishing, automotive and medical sectors. Engaging on and negotiating conditions to address various competition and public interest issues including employment and HDP ownership.

Contact Reece

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[Reece on LinkedIn](#)

Expertise

[Competition Law](#)

Consumer Protection

Location

Johannesburg

Language

Afrikaans

English

- **Cartel Prosecutions – Price Fixing**

Drafting pleadings and defending a South African bank in cartel proceedings for an alleged international foreign exchange cartel in the Constitutional Court.

- **Complex and Contested Merger Investigations**

Representing packaging industry firms in opposed consideration application regarding a prohibited merger.

- **Regional and Foreign Merger Control Experience**

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.

- **Abuse of Dominance**

Representing client in South Africa's first tying Abuse of Dominance case.

- **Merger Control: Public Interest**

Drafting merger notification and representing a firm in a merger before the Competition Tribunal setting precedent on the approach to consider public interest factors under the amended Competition Act.

- **Cartel Prosecutions – Bid Rigging**

Representing fire protection company and attending hearing before the Competition Appeal Court to oppose bid-rigging cartel prosecution.

- **Interim Interdicts**

Drafting pleadings and opposing an abuse of dominance interim interdict lodged against supermarket chain.

- **Market Inquiries**

Advising internet search firm in responding to the Commission's Media and Digital Platforms Market Inquiry.

- **Multi-National Merger Control**

Drafting South African and African merger filings in respect of multi-national merger filings in the pharmaceuticals, mining, real estate and freight forwarding sectors.

- **Cartel Investigations**

Representing a bank in cartel investigations into alleged fixing of mortgage and prime rates as well as alleged price fixing of the trading of commodity futures.

- **Compliance Advice**

Advising bank on the competition risks associated with vehicle financing alliance agreements with OEMs and vehicle dealerships.

- **Consumer Protection Law**

Drafting opinions and providing consumer protection law advice to clients regarding online gambling activities, cloning of pharmaceutical products, franchise agreements and promotional competitions.

- **Initiating Competition Complaints**

Conducting research and drafting abuse of dominance complaints in the securities depository, aviation and leisure weapons sectors.

- **Dawn Raids**

Drafting dawn raid policies and providing dawn raid training.

- **Due Diligences**

Conducting research and drafting abuse of dominance complaint in the securities depository and leisure weapons sector.

News

[The Competition Commission's New Groove: A Business-Friendly Shift](#)

Practice Head Chris Charter and Directors Albert Aukema and Reece May were recently featured in Ghost Mail, where they discussed: "The Competition Commission's New Groove: A Business-Friendly Shift?"

[When does an internal restructure need approval from the competition authorities? The Competition Commission provides its views in its draft guidelines](#)

On 24 January 2025, the Competition Commission (Commission) published its draft guidelines on internal restructuring (Draft Guidelines). These Draft Guidelines, although not final, set out for the first time the Commission's position as to when an internal restructure requires merger control approval before implementation. This is of particular relevance to firms that hold equity investments in other businesses and which may be looking to restructure those interests in the future. The position that the Commission ultimately adopts could have an impact on business' ability to structure their groups with(out) regulatory oversight.

[The ABCs of merger investigations in South Africa: When do the competition authorities need to know about your deal?](#)

The Competition Act 89 of 1998 (Competition Act) requires certain deals to be approved by the competition authorities prior to implementation. This alert unpacks when you would need to notify the competition authorities about a deal and provides practical guidance on how to get your approval.

[Price personalisation or price discrimination: Can your computer tell the difference?](#)

From booking accommodation and transport to purchasing products online, data analytics has given firms the ability to use automated pricing algorithms to charge personalised prices to every customer based on their data profile. Does this personalised pricing contravene competition law, or does it benefit competition? This debate has been raging in competition law circles.

[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 competition law.

Videos

[Mergers vs retrenchment – How the law is geared towards saving jobs](#)

Reece May, Senior Associate in the Competition Law practice joins Sindy Mabe on eNCA to discuss Mergers vs retrenchment – How the law is geared towards saving jobs.

Podcasts

[Price personalisation or price discrimination: Can your computer tell the difference](#)

Reece May, Senior Associate in the Competition Law practice joined Jeremy Maggs on Hot 1027 to discuss Price personalisation or price discrimination: Can your computer tell the difference?

[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.