

Denise Durand

Director



Denise Durand is a Director in our Dispute Resolution practice.

About Denise

Denise began her career as a mineral rights manager in an investment group before pursuing law. Denise joined Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr as an Associate in 2017 and became a Senior Associate in 2019. Denise was promoted to Director in 2024.

Credentials

Education

- BA in Applied Economics and Law, University of the Witwatersrand
- LLB, University of the Witwatersrand
- Year of admission as an attorney: 2016

Experience

- Advising and representing clients in several pre-litigious and litigious matters.
- Acting for blue-chip clients in a variety of sectors including mining, financial services, property, tourism, education, poultry, water treatment and agriculture and providing the following services, amongst others.
- Drafting of legal pleadings, notices and documents in commercial disputes, including but not limited to shareholder disputes, eviction applications, successfully opposing business rescue applications; foreclosure of immovable properties, recovery of commercial rental arrears and interdict proceedings.
- Instituting and opposing arbitration proceedings locally and abroad; and review of notarial leases and trust deeds.
- Review of shareholder agreements, memoranda of incorporation and preparation of various company resolutions.
- Mediation with the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy and community forums.
- Conducting due diligence for transfer of shareholding in mining operations, including preparation of legal risk reports and document management.

Contact Denise

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[Denise on LinkedIn](#)

Expertise

[Dispute Resolution](#)

[International Arbitration](#)

[Mining & Minerals](#)

Location

Johannesburg

Language

English

- Preparing and managing exploration, mining and production right licence applications for various mineral; resources and gas reserves, including transfer of ownership and amendment of mineral rights.
- Advising on developments in mining, oil and gas legislation in relation to licensing and reporting requirements.

News

[Digging for alignment: Africa's ESG crossroads](#)

Environmental, social and governance (ESG) considerations have become central to the legal and commercial landscape of global mining, shaping investor risk appetite, regulatory compliance and community engagement. For Africa, home to vast reserves of critical minerals, the question is no longer whether to integrate ESG, but how, and under which legal framework.

[The dispute resolution landscape for the mining industry in South Africa](#)

South Africa, a country rich in minerals, presents significant opportunities, as well as challenges, for international investors seeking to invest in South Africa and beneficiate minerals for the good of the local and global economies. Investment in South African minerals, whether in the form of debt funding or equity, requires knowledge and understanding of the context and legal frameworks within which such investment is made.

[Overlaps and oversight: Navigating mineral rights in South Africa](#)

As the global economy begins to embrace the transition to green metals, ensuring certainty of mineral right tenure is crucial for the sustainability of these aspirations. The granting of ostensibly exclusive rights to multiple parties poses a significant challenge to role players in South Africa's ever-fluctuating mining landscape.

[Side-stepping subpoenas](#)

A long-standing favourite of court-room dramas, the service and use of subpoenas plays a central role in the functioning of our legal system.

[But it's my emails and stuff!](#)

Does the mandament van spolie remedy apply to email addresses and network servers? This question was recently answered by the Supreme Court of Appeal (SCA) in the case of Blendrite (Pty) Ltd and Another v Moonisami and Another (Case no 227/2020) ZASCA 77.

[All news by Denise Durand →](#)