

COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE





Commercial Real Estate

Commercial real estate refers to properties used specifically for business or income-generating purposes. Publicly traded real estate investment trusts (REITs) are a feasible way for individuals to indirectly invest in commercial real estate. Investing in this usually requires more sector relevant knowledge and experience which our team is more than equipped with. We have a full service conveyancing offering to support the execution of the commercial real estate transactions, including but not limited to the registration of all transaction security (bonds), transfers, servitudes and long term leases.

Our Team consists of a very strong, skilled and experienced Commercial Real Estate team, which incorporates the expertise of other practice areas such as the Tax & Exchange Control practice, as well as Competition Law, Finance & Banking, Corporate & Commercial and Real Estate Practices. The team has the capacity to work simultaneously on many substantial Developments, M&A deals, International deals and listings for any size deals.

Our Team's key differentiator is our extensive expertise and experience in advising and assisting on the legal aspects in Commercial Real Estate, through an in-depth knowledge of the complexities of the legal and regulatory frameworks in South Africa and across borders.

We have a wide range of clients from the public and private sectors which includes large, listed companies, multinational corporations, international agencies, state-owned enterprises, government departments and non-governmental organisations.

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Overview

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JSE/REIT listed sector and stock exchange

Focusing on the JSE Limited, South African Markets, A2X, Forex, the Johannesburg Stock Exchange, National Treasury, SARS and ALTIX.

The team has done extensive work both locally and internationally, which includes Listings, REIT's Office deals, Investments, major international deals.



Tax



Property



Developments: Sectional title/share blocks/shopping centres/logistic parks/office parks



Competition Law: mergers, exclusive leases



Hotels and leisure



Commercial leases



Kenya commercial real estate

Meet the team



Muhammad Gattoo

Joint Sector Head
Director-Practice Head:
Real Estate Law



Peter Hesseling

Joint Sector Head
Director:
Corporate & Commercial



Susan Meyer

Joint Sector Head
Director:
Competition Law



Emil Brincker

Practice Head
Director:
Tax & Exchange Control



Albert Aukema

Director:
Competition Law



Jerome Brink

Director:
Tax & Exchange Control



Bonita de Silva

Managing Partner | Namibia
Corporate & Commercial



Alex de Wet

Director:
Real Estate Law



Simone Franks

Director:
Real Estate Law



Fatima Gattoo

Director:
Real Estate Law



Meet the team



Yaniv Kleitman

Director:
Corporate & Commercial



Dane Kruger

Director:
Corporate & Commercial



Sammy Ndolo

Managing Partner | Kenya
Corporate & Commercial



Lydia Owuor

Partner | Kenya
Real Estate



Howmera Parak

Director:
Tax & Exchange Control



David Thompson

Director:
Corporate & Commercial



Roxanna Valayathum

Director:
Corporate & Commercial



John Webber

Director:
Real Estate Law



MARKET RECOGNITION

Our Real Estate Law team is externally praised for its depth of resources, capabilities and experience.

Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr was shortlisted for the *IFLR Africa Awards 2025* for 'Team of the Year | Regional' for Real Estate.

Chambers Global 2017–2025 ranked us in Band 1 for real estate.

Legal 500 EMEA 2014–2025 recommended us in Tier 1 for real estate.

The way we support and interact with our clients attracts significant external recognition.

Muhammad Gattoo is the Practice Head of our Real Estate Law team. *Chambers Global 2024–2025* ranked Muhammad in Band 3 for real estate.

The Legal 500 EMEA 2024–2025 recommended him as a 'Leading Individual' for real estate. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2021–2023* recommended him for real estate.

Chambers Global 2019–2025 ranked Peter Hesselings in Band 2 for corporate/M&A. *Chambers Global 2023–2025* ranked him in Band 3 for Capital Markets: Equity. *Chambers Global 2017–2018* ranked him in Band 3 for corporate/M&A. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2012–2025* recommended Peter for commercial, corporate/M&A. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2022* recommended Peter for banking & finance. *IFLR1000 2021–2024* recommended Peter as a market leader for restructuring & insolvency, and M&A. *IFLR1000 2018–2020* recommended Peter as a highly regarded lawyer for restructuring & insolvency, and M&A.

Susan Meyer is the Joint Head of our Healthcare & Pharmaceuticals sector, and a director in our Competition Law practice. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2021–2025* recommended Susan for competition. *IFLR1000 2018–2024* recommended her as a 'Notable Practitioner'.

Emil Brincker is the Practice Head of our Tax & Exchange Control team. *Chambers Global 2003–2025* has consistently ranked him in Band 1 for tax. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2017–2025* recommended Emil as a 'Leading Individual' for tax and named him Lawyer of the Year for tax in 2021. *The 2025 ITR World Tax release* ranked Emil as 'Highly Regarded' in tax controversy in South Africa.

Chambers Global 2023–2025 ranked Albert Aukema in Band 5 for competition/antitrust. *Chambers Global 2020–2022* ranked him as an 'Up & Coming' competition/antitrust lawyer. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2021–2025* recommended Albert for competition.

Chambers Global 2024–2025 ranked Jerome Brink as and 'Up & Coming' tax lawyer. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2023–2025* recommended Jerome as a 'Next Generation' lawyer for tax. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2022* recommended him for tax.

The Legal 500 EMEA 2023–2025 recommended Fatima Gattoo for real estate.

IFLR1000 2018–2024 recommended Yaniv Kleitman as a 'Notable Practitioner' in M&A.

The Legal 500 EMEA 2024–2025 recommended Dane Kruger for commercial, corporate/M&A.

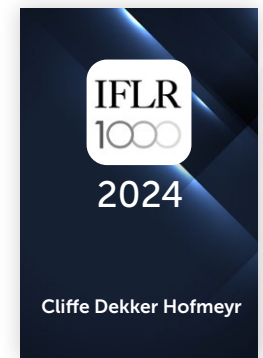
Sammy Ndolo is the Kenya Managing Partner. *Chambers Global 2025* ranked Sammy Ndolo in Band 3 for Fintech. *Chambers Global 2021–2025* ranked Sammy in Band 4 for corporate/M&A. *Chambers Global 2025* ranked him in Band 3 for banking & finance and in Band 4 from 2023–2024. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2024–2025* recommended Sammy as a 'Leading Individual' for banking, finance & capital markets. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2022–2023* recommended him for banking, finance & capital markets. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2023–2025* also recommended Sammy for corporate, commercial/M&A. *IFLR1000 2021–2024* ranked him as a 'Notable Practitioner'.

The Legal 500 EMEA 2021–2025 recommended Howmera Parak for tax.

David Thompson is a director and the Deputy Practice Head of our Corporate & Commercial practice. *Chambers Global 2024–2025* ranked David in Band 5 for corporate/M&A. *Chambers Global 2015–2023* ranked him in Band 4 for corporate/M&A. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2020* and *2022–2023* recommended him for corporate, commercial/M&A. *IFLR1000 2021–2024* ranked David as highly regarded in M&A.

Roxanna Valayathum is the Joint Head of our Healthcare & Pharmaceuticals sector, and a director in our Corporate & Commercial practice. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2023–2025* recommended for corporate, commercial/M&A.

Chambers Global 2024–2025 ranked John Webber in Band 1 for real estate. *Chambers Global 2021–2023* ranked John in Band 2 for real estate and in Band 3 in 2019–2020. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2021–2025* recommended him as a 'Leading Individual' for real estate.



BBBEE STATUS: LEVEL ONE CONTRIBUTOR

Our BBBEE verification is one of several components of our transformation strategy and we continue to seek ways of improving it in a meaningful manner.

PLEASE NOTE

This information is published for general information purposes and is not intended to constitute legal advice. Specialist legal advice should always be sought in relation to any particular situation. Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr will accept no responsibility for any actions taken or not taken on the basis of this publication.

JOHANNESBURG

1 Protea Place, Sandton, Johannesburg, 2196. Private Bag X40, Benmore, 2010, South Africa.
Dx 154 Randburg and Dx 42 Johannesburg.
T +27 (0)11 562 1000 F +27 (0)11 562 1111 E jhb@cdhlegal.com

CAPE TOWN

11 Buitengracht Street, Cape Town, 8001. PO Box 695, Cape Town, 8000, South Africa. Dx 5 Cape Town.
T +27 (0)21 481 6300 F +27 (0)21 481 6388 E ctn@cdhlegal.com

NAIROBI

Merchant Square, 3rd floor, Block D, Riverside Drive, Nairobi, Kenya. P.O. Box 22602-00505, Nairobi, Kenya.
T +254 731 086 649 | +254 204 409 918 | +254 710 560 114
E cdhkenya@cdhlegal.com

NAMIBIA

1st Floor Maerua Office Tower, Cnr Robert Mugabe Avenue and Jan Jonker Street, Windhoek 10005, Namibia
PO Box 97115, Maerua Mall, Windhoek, Namibia, 10020
T +264 833 730 100 E cdhnamibia@cdhlegal.com

STELLENBOSCH

14 Louw Street, Stellenbosch Central, Stellenbosch, 7600.
T +27 (0)21 481 6400 E cdh Stellenbosch@cdhlegal.com

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