
LAW

LETTER
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■ Meet the Team ...

SHERI BRESLAW holds the degrees of BCom, LLB (UNISA) and was admitted as an attorney in 2003. She joined Fairbridges in 2005 as a specialist in Family Law and has developed an extensive practice in all aspects of matrimonial and family litigation, maintenance disputes, custody and access of minor children, domestic abuse cases and conflict resolution. Sheri is a proud wife and mother and her calm, assured empathy, her intelligence, good humour and professionalism has won the respect of her clients and colleagues alike. Contact Sheri Breslaw at Tel 021 405 7432 or 084 578 8901 or sbreslaw@fairbridges.co.za



ADELA PETERSEN achieved the degrees BA (Social Science), LLB (UCT), served her articles in Cape Town, and was admitted as an attorney in 1999. She has joined Fairbridges as an associate in our Litigation Department, based in our vibrant Constantia branch. Her experience in commercial and general litigation has already become evident. Adela is a mature, confident and alert practitioner with excellent communication skills, highly capa-

ble, energetic, and well focused. She has further strengthened our formidable team of litigators. Contact Adela Petersen at Tel 021 794 0911 or 083 414 2635 or apetersen@fairbridges.co.za

DIANNE NUNES obtained the degrees of BA (Law), LLB (RAU) in Gauteng, served her articles in Cape Town, and was admitted as an attorney in 1997. After joining Fairbridges, she was also admitted as a Conveyancer in 2005 and has become a valued member of our Property Department. Her extensive experience in both the legal and private sectors in financial and credit control and management has proved invaluable in meeting the demands of our busy property practice. Dianne's excellent inter-personal skills, dedication, attention to detail, attractive personality and positive



approach has made a significant contribution to the Fairbridges team. Contact Dianne Nunes at Tel 021 405 7319 or 076 970 4803 or dnunes@fairbridges.co.za

LEANNE BARLOW holds the degrees BA, LLB (UCT), served her articles in Johannesburg, and was admitted as an attorney in 1984. She later joined the Master's Office in Cape Town and rose to become Assistant Master. She gained extensive experience as an Estates Examiner in Insolvencies and Curatorships, and the administration of Deceased Estates, as well as Human Resource Management, and was admitted as an Advocate of the High Court. Leanne is an associate in our Estates and Trusts Department where her detailed knowledge, leadership and management skills, intelligence, constructive approach, and balanced sense of judgment, combined with her good humoured personality has become greatly valued by our clients. Contact Leanne Barlow at Tel 021 405 7403 or lbarlow@fairbridges.co.za



■ *Mission Impossible*

“WE HAVE a judiciary of men and women, all imperfect creatures, trying hard to deliver justice in an imperfect world using imperfect implements.”

– Chief Justice Pius Langa (March 2008).



■ *Bobby on the Beat*

“OUR POLICE ARE TIED UP in regulations, the tangle of human rights laws and demands from central government. If the police were answerable to voters in each area, they would have to fight crime in the way people want it fought.”

– Charles Moore, in *The Daily Telegraph* (29 September 2001).



■ *Warning One*

“CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS must be followed to the letter. As South African practitioners you have the duty to ensure that, whatever happens, you maintain standards, as well as the independence of the judiciary and of your profession.”

- Beatrice Mtetwa,
President of the Law Society of Zimbabwe (November 2007).



■ *Warning Too*

“CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT limits us in order to free us. There will be times of emotion and turmoil when we will be tempted to tear up the framework of rules that we have so carefully put together. But it is those rules, and our commitment to upholding them, that allow us to work together to create a more just society.”

- Cyril Ramaphosa (February 2008).



■ *Star Witness*

“THE PROSECUTOR made the mistake of taking him on, and Sisulu hit him for sixes left, right and centre. He devastated the prosecution with his knowledge of the facts, his belief in the justness of the struggle, his intelligence and his quick wit. The reason Nelson Mandela and the other seven accused at the Rivonia Trial were not handed a death sentence by the judge was the impression left by Walter Sisulu’s sincerity, the strength of his arguments, and his dignity.”

- Advocate George Bizos SC,
*in a tribute on 26 September 2007 to the late
struggle veteran Walter Sisulu.*



■ *Why be a Lawyer?*

“MAKING A GOOD LIVING is very important, I don’t deny that, but that’s not all that we do. There’s a very bright guy named David Maister, who’s written about law firm ethics, law firm management and what it means to be a professional. He wrote about how he talks to lawyers a lot, and asks why they do what they’re doing, ‘Why are you practising law?’ And he says he hears lots of answers – ‘I want to make money’, ‘I like the prestige’, ‘I like the intellectual challenge.’ He says that these are all good answers, but ‘if I don’t hear the answer, amidst the others, ‘I do it because I want to help people’, then I know I am talking to a lawyer in trouble.’ And I think that’s right. It’s really a people occupation, very analogous to medicine.”

*– from an interview with Charles McCallum,
Chairman of international law firm network TerraLex
(October 2007).*

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