

# Port Elizabeth

Contributed by **Anusha Rawjee**



The PE Bar welcomes the following new members – Gaynor Appels, Michelle Du Toit, Ivan Lamprecht, Vuyolwethu Madokwe, Batande Ndamase, Xola Nogantshi and Morné Olivier.

Gaynor Appels completed her B. Juris and LLB at NMU (then known as UPE) in December 1996. She started her legal career in 1997 as a candidate attorney at a law firm in Graaff-Reinet (V Dercksen and Partners). Gaynor was admitted as an attorney in March 1999 whereafter she practiced at V Dercksen and Partners until September 2000, when she joined the Office of the State Attorney, as an Assistant State Attorney. Gaynor was then appointed Regional Head: Legal Services for the Regional Office of the National Department of Public Works (NDPW) situated in Port Elizabeth. She was responsible for managing all litigation of the NDPW emanating from the part of the Eastern Cape that formed part of the Cape Province prior to 1994. She worked at the NDPW until she joined the Bar as a pupil member in 2017 and now holds chambers at Oasim.

Michelle du Toit is born and bred in Uitenhage and attended the Riebeeck College Girls High School. After matriculating, Michelle joined the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development as an administrative clerk. Her experience while working there inspired her to enrol as a part time student at Vista University where she completed the LLB degree in 2002. After graduating, Michelle joined the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) and prosecuted in the Eastern

Cape courts for 15 years. Michelle then took the bold decision to join the Bar and successfully completed her pupillage in 2017. Michelle holds chambers at Club Chambers.

Ivan Lambrechts went to Grey High School and matriculated in 2008. He completed his LLB at NMMU in 2012. Ivan then commenced Articles in 2013 and worked as a Professional Assistant at Brown, Braude & Vlok Inc until he commenced pupillage in 2017. Ivan's passion lies in civil litigation especially labour law. Besides practising law, Ivan also enjoys playing football and cricket.

Vuyolwethu Madokwe (aka Vuyo) completed his matric at Mariazell High School in 1998. He then studied for his LLB degree at the University of Transkei, which he completed in 2002. Vuyo then did his articles of clerkship at Madokwe & Madokwe Attorneys in Port Elizabeth and was later admitted as an Attorney in 2005. During his time practising as an attorney, he advanced his skills, knowledge and competence by attending various seminars and skills development programmes offered by the Law Society of South Africa. In May 2005, Madokwe joined the Port Elizabeth Office of the State Attorney where he practiced as an Assistant State Attorney and later a Senior Assistant State Attorney, for twelve years. During these twelve years of practice at the State Attorney's office, he gained vast litigation experience and exposure in various divisions of the High Court, the Supreme Court of Appeal and the Constitutional Court. Madokwe has also been instrumental in the legal

education and development of candidate attorneys, and has been an instructor at the Nelson Mandela University School for Legal Practice for the past six years. He also taught commercial law at the University of South Africa between 2011 and 2015. His passion for legal training and development is reflected in his commitment to the Lexis Nexis Moot Court Competition as one of the judges during 2014, 2015 and 2017 at NMU. Madokwe joined the Bar after completing his pupillage successfully in 2017 and holds chambers at Oasim.

Batande Ndamase obtained an LLB degree at the University of Transkei (now known as Walter Sisulu University of Science and Technology) in 2003. He then enrolled with the School for Legal Practice, Port Elizabeth and obtained a Certificate in Practical Legal Training (PLT) in 2004. He then served his articles with the firm De Villiers Incorporated in Port Elizabeth and was admitted as an attorney of the High Court of South Africa in 2005. He worked as a Professional Assistant with the same firm until June 2006, when he joined Rory Liesching Attorneys. In June 2008, Batande rejoined De Villiers Incorporated as one of the directors. In 2009, Batande joined Legal Aid South Africa at King Williams' Town Justice Centre as a Professional Assistant and progressed within the ranks of Legal Aid. He held a managerial position of Supervisory Legal Practitioner (Civil) at the Uitenhage Justice Centre when, after 11 years of practice as an attorney, he resigned to commence pupillage at the PE Bar. He currently holds Chambers at Oasim.