

Grahamstown Bar

Contributed by Thomas Miller



Grahamstown High Court by Vysotsky

FAREWELL TO JUDGES PLASKET AND PICKERING

The Eastern Cape Society of Advocates bid a fond farewell to Judges Pickering and Plasket at a well-attended event in Grahamstown, with Justice Froneman and Geoff Budlender SC delivering moving farewell speeches.

Judge Pickering was appointed to the bench in 1992 and after serving in Mthatha for four years has served in Grahamstown from 1996 until his retirement this year.

Judge Plasket was appointed to the bench in 2003 and after acting in the Supreme Court of Appeal between 2012 and 2019, was permanently appointed to the Supreme Court of Appeal on 1 June 2019.

The Eastern Cape legal fraternity is grateful for the contribution that Judges Pickering and Plasket have made to the administration of justice in the Eastern Cape and, while they will be greatly missed, we wish them the best in all of their future endeavours.

JUDICIAL APPOINTMENT

Motilal Sunil Rugunanan is congratulated on his appointment to the Eastern Cape Bench.

Judge Rugunanan completed his LLB degree at Rhodes University and served his articles of clerkship at the firms B. Sandi and Co and then at Dullabh and Co in Grahamstown. After completing his articles Judge Rugunanan was admitted as an attorney of the Supreme Court of South Africa, Eastern Cape Division. Thereafter he was employed by the Department of Justice as an Estates examiner before being admitted as an Advocate of the Supreme Court of South Africa and completing his pupillage with the Eastern Cape Society of Advocates, Grahamstown in 2001.

During his 18 years of practice in Grahamstown Judge Rugunanan has been a committed member of the Bar and has provided invaluable assistance to the bar council in various capacities. He has further actively contributed to the communities of Grahamstown and Somerset East as a Small Claims Court Commissioner.

NEW SILK

David de la Harpe is congratulated on his appointment as senior counsel with effect from 30 July 2019.

De la Harpe SC graduated from Rhodes University with an LLB degree and after serving his articles of clerkship with Netteltons attorneys he was admitted as an attorney of the Supreme Court of South Africa, Eastern Cape Division.

After successfully practising as an attorney for 16 years de la Harpe SC joined the Eastern Cape Society of Advocates on 15 December 2003. His other interests include fishing, hunting and competitive clay target shooting.

ACTING APPOINTMENTS

Margaux Beard, Jannie Coltman, Sunil Rugunanan and Sarah Sephton held acting appointments as judges of the Eastern Cape Division during the course of the year. [A](#)