

Western Cape Bar

Contributed by Gregory Solik

THE CLASS OF 2023 The Cape Bar

by Le Roux Snyman

On 16 January 2023, 16 candidates undertook their first day of pupillage under the General Council of Bar curriculum, and for some of the candidates, this included the additional Legal Practice Council curriculum.

The year was a huge success. Many pupils came to pupillage not knowing what to expect. Some met their mentors for the first time on the first day, and a few gave up established careers to start afresh. What almost immediately followed the group's introduction was, *inter alia*, a plethora of introductions, demands, late nights, practical vocation training, ad hoc meetings, committee functions and a mad search to find the best (and cheapest) parking.

As the year went on, some pupils left, our exams came and went, and our evenings and weekends quickly became mock trials. What the group came to understand was that pupillage is not so much a "boot camp" but a firm framework wherein each could learn, test themselves, and often safely fail. Then retry and learn – again.

Pupillage therefore represents a foundation; a basis for collegiality, friendship, and an understanding for what it means to be an advocate.

A year later, 14 pupils completed the relevant exams. Currently four are members: Kyle Klopper, Karen Taylor-Vermaak, Le Roux Snyman and Paul Smit. The rest of the candidates shall soon follow in April and May 2024.



Kyle Klopper



Karen Taylor-Vermaak



Le Roux Snyman

THE NATIONAL JUNIOR BAR COUNCIL

by Eilene de Waal and Suné Bosch

Co-chairpersons of the Cape Junior Bar Council (Eilene de Waal & Suné Bosch) were invited by the General Council of the Bar's chairperson, Myron Dewrance SC, to attend a meeting with other Junior Bar Council chairs on 11 December 2023.

The purpose of the meeting was to enquire what each province's JBC offers to their juniors and how the gaps between junior and senior members are bridged.

Eilene and Suné had the opportunity to expand on the Cape Bar's Access to Work policy and how that was the springboard for the Junior/Senior networking event of 2023. To this end, the goal of the Junior/Senior networking event was simultaneously to assist silks with their transformation compliance requirements whilst also affording junior members the opportunity to network with seniors whom they have not had the privilege of meeting and/or working for, in what can best be described as a Musical-Chairs-evening.



Co-chairperson Suné Bosch

The Cape Bar was acknowledged for the Cape JBC's creative problem-solving of hurdles faced by juniors and was thus invited to establish a National Junior Bar Council and encouraged to continue co-chairing the Cape JBC whilst also being the first chairs of the NJBC.

Whilst the logistics are being finalised,



Co-chairperson Eilene de Waal

Suné and Eilene hope to commence the NJBC during the second term of 2024 with the first agenda item being: lunch time talks on a virtual platform – connecting juniors, nationally, to log on and receive continuous training from the Cape Bar members. **A**

Advocate: The South African Bar Journal Guidelines for writers

- Advocate* is the mouthpiece of the South African Bar. It is a professional journal which provides information and guidance on developments in the profession and the administration of justice. Contributions on subjects which are of practical importance to members of the Bar are welcomed, and will receive priority.
- All manuscripts must be in MS Word format, double-spaced throughout, including references and footnotes. An article should not exceed 3 000 words. Letters, notes and reports should generally not exceed 1 000 words. Shorter pieces, and clear, communicative writing, are preferred. Legal jargon derived from pleadings (e.g. 'thereby', 'thereof' etc) should be avoided. A contribution must preferably be sent by e-mail as an attachment to a message.
- All manuscripts should contain the author's name in the body of the work and include a proposed title.
- Contributions and letters should be addressed to:
The Editor, Advocate
Email: franny.rabkin@gcbsa.co.za
Postal: PO Box 786878, SANDTON, 2146
Tel: +27 (0) 82 927 5536 (editor)
- Material is considered for publication on the understanding that:
 - it has not been published or submitted for publication elsewhere;
 - the editorial committee and the editor have reserved the right to edit it as to style, length and language;
 - the writer has carefully checked quotations and references for accuracy;
 - it is written in clear, jargon-free language, and has linguistically been reviewed and checked for errors.
- The writer's academic and professional qualifications, and also his or her occupation or professional status must be stated.
- Footnotes should, if possible, be avoided. Case references should preferably be incorporated into the text. When referring to a book the publisher and date of publication should be mentioned. In the case of articles the name of the writer, the title of the article and the date of publication should be indicated. Where footnotes are unavoidable, they should be numbered consecutively in superscript in the text, and reproduced at the end of the article. If there are only a few footnotes, asterisks may be used.

Further queries may be made to the editor at the above address. **A**