



# LAVERENE PHILOMENE BERNADINE ACCOM ADVOCATE

## PROFILE

## CONTACT

21a5

## HOBBIES

- Painting
- Writing: Author / Writer
- Listening to classical music
- Cooking/ baking and Reading

## LANGUAGES

- English - Proficient
- Afrikaans - Proficient

## QUALITIES

- Hardworking
- Innovative and creative
- Efficient
- Go getter

## SKILLS

- Administration
- Case management proficiency
- Conflict Resolution and persuasive argumentation
- Counselling
- Courtroom etiquette
- Critical thinking Litigation
- Evidence analysis
- Legal writing, drafting and legal research expertise
- Mediation and Problem-solving
- Public speaking prowess
- Time Management / Witness examination

## EDUCATION

University of South Africa, Pretoria  
Master of Laws: LLM in Family

January 2020 – 10 October 2023

The role of the Family Advocate ends once their report is handed in at court. My research analysed the role of the Family Advocate that should be investigated beyond the divorce of parties in the best interests of the minor children.

Mini Dissertation: The role and effectivity of the Family Advocate in terms of the Parental Responsibilities and Rights of children after divorce: Learning from the Australian Experience.

### COURSEWORK:

Child Law, Divorce Law, Private International Law Perspectives on the Proprietary Consequences of Marriage passed with Distinction, Research Methodology for Law, Customary, Religious and Contemporary Families.  
Mini Dissertation 73%. Degree average 70%.

University of South Africa, Pretoria  
Bachelor of Laws

January 2014 – 8 October 2019

The origins of South African Laws, Introduction to Law, Law of Persons, Skills Course for Law Students, General Principles of Criminal Law, Constitutional Law, Financial Accounting Principles for Law Practitioners, Foundations of South African Law, African Customary Law, Family Law, Research Literacy for Law, \*Social dimensions of Justice, General Principles of Civil Law, Entrepreneurial Law, Labour Law, Law of Property, Law of Contract, Administrative Law, Law of Criminal Procedure: Trial and Post-trial, Criminal Law: Specific Crimes, Fundamental Rights, Interpretation of Statutes, Legal Philosophy, Law of Succession, \*Language through an African Lens, \*Advanced Indigenous Law, \*Legal Research Methodology, Company Law, \*Law of Damages, Insolvency Law, \*Law of Delict, Enrichment and Estoppel, \*LLB Research Report, Civil Procedure, International Law, Law of Evidence, Professional Ethics, Legal Aspects of Electronic Commerce, \*Techniques in Trial and Litigation and Medical Law. (\* 8 Modules passed with distinction)

Therapon University, St Thomas Virgin Islands January 2008 – 12 December 2008  
Bachelor of Theology in the Discipline of Biblical Counselling

Biblical studies, Stress Management, Practical Theology, DIANU Diet and Nutrition, Communication, Biblical Pastoral Counselling, Mentoring and Coaching. I am a qualified and trained Trauma Counsellor since 2008.

University of South Africa, Pretoria  
Doctor of Laws in Private Law

January 2024

The issue I will be analysing and investigating is domestic violence and gender-based violence against South African women and children after divorce and the role of the Family Advocate.

**Department of Economic Development and  
Tourism in Northern Cape Consumer  
Protection Authority Unit  
Acting Prosecutor and Education Specialist  
01 April 2021– 31 January 2025**

**Northern Cape Provincial Government  
Office of the Premier, Kimberley  
Administration Officer  
01 July 2015 - 31 March 2021**

**Laverene Barnes Properties changed to  
Laverene Real Estate  
Owner and Principal Estate Agent  
November 2001 – 30 June 2015**

**Standard Bank of South Africa  
Bank Official  
September 1985 – December 1997**

## **WORK EXPERIENCE**

### **Duties**

- **Review inspectors/investigating officers' case files referred for legal proceedings:** Provide guidance to Inspectors/ Investigating Officers with regard to legislative implications on consumer complaints. Guidance in the investigation and mediation process by Investigating Officers. Peruse investigation files for Consumer Court referrals.
- **Legal advisory services:** Provide guidance to Inspectors/ Investigating Officers with regard to legislative implications on consumer complaints. Maintain legal library and advise management of latest applicable findings. Conduct research for policy, legislative and regulatory improvements.
- **Litigation Management.** Provide guidance to Inspectors/ Investigating Officers with regard to legislative implications on consumer complaints.
- **Compile and report.** Compile monthly and quarterly reports for the Department with reference to complaint statistics. Compile Quarterly Reports for the National Consumer Forums. Compile any other reports where complainant statistics and trend analysis are reflected.
- **Administrative functions.** To promote and advance the social and economic welfare of consumers in the Province in accordance with the provisions and principles set out in the Consumer Protection Act. Review inspectors/investigating officers' case files referred for legal proceedings.
- **Consumer Education and Awareness Campaigns in Northern Cape Districts.**

### **Duties**

- Manage schedules and appointments for senior management.
- Coordinate meetings and conferences, including arranging venues and catering.
- Prepare and distribute correspondence, memos and reports.
- Maintain office supplies, equipment and place orders as needed.
- Assist with the preparation of budgets and expense reports.
- Human Resources Leave Management of staff and Leave Audits.
- Part of Job Evaluation Secretariat.
- Assist in drafting JE and OD policies.
- Handle incoming and outgoing mail and packages.
- Organize and maintain filing systems, both electronic and physical.
- Provide general administrative support, answering phones and greeting visitors.
- Assist with special projects and events as assigned.
- Ensure compliance with company policies and procedures.

### **Duties**

- Marketing of properties for sale.
- Selling and purchasing of properties for clients.
- Arranging bank finance for purchasers of properties.
- Rental of properties.

### **Achievements:**

- Member of the Absa Group Gold Inner Circle for sales exceeding R5 million per annum as a Sole Proprietor.
- Absa Bank Recognition as one of the top 2000 estate agents in South Africa.

- Assess Cashflow Statements and Balance Sheets (Manager's Department)
- Enquiries and Foreign Exchange
- General Banking
- Investments
- Purchasing and selling of Shares for clients
- Management: Assist clients with Home Loans/ Student Loans/Personal Loans
- Secretary to Bank Manager
- Securities Check Clerk

### **Achievements:**

- Received a clean audit for Securities at Standard Bank as a Bank Official.
- Recovered substantial outstanding monies from clients who owed the Bank for loans, overdrafts etc.

1. **ADR NETWORK SOUTH AFRICA CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS**
2. **NETWORK FOR CAREER DEVELOPMENT: ETD P SETA**
3. **COUNCIL FOR COUNSELLORS**
4. **ESTATE AGENCY AFFAIRS BOARD**
5. **FORD MOTOR COMPANY**
6. **STANDARD BANK OF SOUTH AFRICA**
7. **NATIONAL SCHOOL OF GOVERNANCE**
8. **PSETA**
9. **EUGENE OPPERMAN INC**
10. **NATIONAL BAR COUNCIL OF SA**
11. **NORTHERN CAPE HIGH COURT OF SA**
12. **ALISON, SOUTH AFRICA DIPLOMA IN ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION - SCORE: 83%**

**ACHIEVEMENTS:**

- First elected Chairperson for South African Women Lawyers (SAWLA) Northern Cape
- First Administrator: Bibleway Correspondence School-Northern Cape Prisons
- First advocate to be admitted for Legal Practice Council and NBCSA in terms of new rules of the High Courts of South Africa
- Served as NBCSA Provincial Secretary for one year
- Served on Northern Cape Cricket Board as Independent Director/Chairperson of REMCO from 26 June 2022 – 8 Nov 2023.
- Nominee for WOZA Award 2022: Lawyers in Excellence Award
- Provincial NEC Member/Chairperson for NBCSA Northern Cape Province and NEC Deputy Secretary since February 2025
- Was nominee for LPC Elections 2025 in NCP
- Gender Activist: GBV and Domestic Violence since 2009 to current date

**CERTIFICATES**

- Advanced Divorce Mediation and Parenting Plans March 2024
- Hate Crimes September 2023
- ADR and Restorative Justice in Human Rights September 2023
- Geopolitical Conflict Resolution and International Peacekeeping July 2023
- Mediation including Court Annexed Mediation and Rule 41A November 2010
- Assessor Course: Outcomes-Based Assessments May 2009-June 2015
- Counsellor: Trauma, Divorce and Family Counselling July 2010
- PDE Professional Principal Estate Agent February 2007
- Sectional Title Workshop October 1984
- Secretaries Course June 1997
- AML Affordable Housing, Home Loans Division March 1992
- Information Assistant and Product Knowledge 99% pass November 2021
- Nyukela Public Service SMS Pre-entry Programme July 2018
- **Compulsory Induction Course:** Governance and Accountability, The Service Delivery System, People Relations and Productivity and Financial processes. May 2022
- Senior Government Official: Service Delivery April 2023
- Unpacking the Domestic Violence Act with Amendments September 2020
- Competency-based Examinations (Bar exams) **Modules Passed: 70% overall score** Motion Court Procedure, ADR, Civil Procedure, Criminal Procedure, Professional Conduct and Legal Ethics of Advocates, Legal Writing and Drafting (83%), Constitutional Law, Customary Law, Information & Communication Technology for practice and Associated Aspects of Cyber Law (88%), Practice Management and Legal Bookkeeping (100%), Advocacy Skills and Prescribed Court Attendance. January 2021
- Admission as Member with NBCSA January 2021
- Admission as Legal Practitioner and Advocate January 2021
- Understanding Conflict, Managing Negotiations, Introduction to ADR, Methods of ADR, First Assessment, What can ADR do?, What Background Conditions are important?, Program Design Considerations in ADR, Taxonomy and Case Studies And Course Assessment. May 2023

**REFERENCES**

- Adv A Paries NBCSA NEC
- Professor J. Allen Samara Mining
- Adv. B. Babuseng PABASA
- Lt Col F. Jacobs SAPS, Kimberley



**SIGNED: ADV LPB ACCOM**

DATE: 10 JULY 2025