

ADV. LEOGANG CORDELIA STROOM

Personal Details	Full name: Adv. Leogang Cordelia Stroom ID number:		Gender: Female	
	Citizenship: South African Cell:	Email:	Physical address:	Availability: Full-time Member

CURRICULUM VITAE · LEGAL, REGULATORY, PRIVACY, DATA GOVERNANCE & PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY LEADERSHIP.

EXECUTIVE VALUE PROPOSITION

Senior legal, privacy, data governance and public-accountability leader with more than 20 years' experience across legal practice, regulatory enforcement, constitutional and administrative law, compliance oversight and institutional governance. **Twice Presidential-appointed Commissioner of South Africa's Information Regulator**, with **direct national experience under POPIA and PAIA** and a track record helping operationalise data-protection enforcement, access-to-information governance, breach-notification oversight and responsible public- and private-sector compliance.

Brings to statutory public service a rare combination of **practising advocate** and **attorney credentials**, **regulator-side authority**, **quasi-judicial judgement**, multi-committee leadership and practical experience translating complex legal and regulatory obligations into fair, accountable, enforceable and institutionally credible outcomes.

Selected Scale Indicators

National Authority	Enforcement Credibility	Data-Risk Governance	Pan-African Leadership
60m	6	2,374	9
Data subjects under national regulatory jurisdiction	Enforcement Notices, including WhatsApp, SARS and RTMC/OUTA matters	Breach notifications managed in 2024/25	ANIC member states; South Africa as Chair & permanent Secretariat

Scale and authority exposure spans national enforcement, constitutional and administrative law, financial-services compliance and pan-African institution building.

EXECUTIVE AND BOARD COMMITTEE RELEVANCE

Brings regulator-side insight into privacy, data, compliance and administrative-law risk at board level, with the ability to translate complex regulatory obligations into practical governance, assurance and oversight frameworks. Particularly relevant to boards overseeing digital trust, stakeholder confidence, reputational exposure and regulated-market conduct.

Profile Area	Board Domain	Evidence / Relevance
Regulatory Committee Leadership	Audit, Risk & Compliance Oversight	Chairs and co-chairs legal, compliance, complaints, investigations and enforcement committees within the Information Regulator, supporting board-relevant oversight of regulatory risk, compliance culture and enforcement exposure.
Quasi-Judicial Decision-Making	Governance, Risk & Administrative Justice	Chairs the CBE Appeals Committee, applying constitutional and administrative-law principles to contested regulatory decisions; no statutory appeal decisions overturned on review across seven decided appeals.
Privacy, Ethics & Public Accountability	Social, Ethics & Public Accountability	Enforcement and policy work across privacy rights, access to information and constitutional accountability, supporting board oversight of social ethics, public trust and responsible data use.
Regulatory Strategy & Legal Risk	Legal, Regulatory & Governance Oversight	Brings national enforcement, administrative-law and POPIA/PAIA interpretation experience to legal-risk governance, regulatory strategy and board-level decision-making.
Digital Trust & Data-Risk Governance	Technology, Data & Digital Governance	Privacy-by-design, cross-border data governance, breach-notification oversight and data-risk response experience relevant to technology, digital trust and cyber/privacy governance committees.
Cross-Sector & Pan-African Exposure	Cross-Border / Pan-African Governance Exposure	Financial-services, public-sector and pan-African regulatory exposure across ten countries, supporting governance in regulated, multi-jurisdictional and stakeholder-sensitive environments.

SELECTED ENTERPRISE IMPACT

Regulatory enforcement precedent: Drafted a landmark WhatsApp enforcement action against a global social media platform, forming part of six Enforcement Notices spanning WhatsApp, SARS, RTMC/OUTA and Blouberg Local Municipality.

National compliance and governance instruments: Co-authored the BASA/CBA Code of Conduct Guidelines, PIIA framework and PAIA Manual Guide, shaping privacy, access-to-information and compliance practice across financial-services and public-sector institutions.

Pan-African institution building Co-founded and helped build African Network of Information Commissioners (ANIC) from concept to a 9-member continental network, with South Africa serving as Chair and permanent Secretariat and six bilateral MoUs secured.

International regulatory representation: Opening panellist at the Cross-Regulatory Workshop & Inclusive Fintech Forum, Cambridge Judge Business School / Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Kigali; SWIFT Workshop invited speaker; 10 international engagements across 10 countries since 2017.

SIGNATURE EXECUTIVE CAPABILITIES

Legal, Regulatory & Enforcement Strategy: Group legal advisory, regulatory risk, administrative and constitutional law, litigation oversight, enforcement doctrine and quasi-judicial decision-making at national scale.

Privacy, Data Governance & Digital Risk: POPIA implementation and enforcement, PAIA access-to-information frameworks, privacy-by-design, PIIA frameworks, cross-border data governance and data breach response.

Board, Risk & Compliance Oversight: King III / King IV governance alignment, audit and risk committee exposure, parliamentary accountability, regulatory engagement and procurement / contract governance.

Institutional Leadership & Stakeholder Influence: Multi-committee leadership across legal, compliance, complaints, investigations and enforcement workstreams; public and media communications; policy influence; regulator engagement and pan-African institution building.

CONCURRENT STATUTORY APPOINTMENT

Chairperson — Appeals Committee, Council for the Built Environment (CBE) · Jan 2016 – Present
(part-time statutory appointment)

Statutory Appeals Authority — Constitutional & Administrative Law, South Africa

Mandate: Presides over statutory appeals under Section 21 of the CBE Act | **Scope:** 7 appeals decided | **60-day statutory turnaround**

Context: Presides over statutory appeals under Section 21 of the CBE Act, ensuring compliance with Section 33 of the Constitution (just administrative action) within 60 days of lodgement.

Judicial Actions: Decided 7 appeals under a compressed statutory timeline, applying constitutional and administrative-law principles to contested built-environment regulatory decisions.

Outcomes: Six decisions were not taken on review; one was reviewed by the Western Cape High Court and upheld. No statutory appeal decisions have been overturned on review.

CAREER HISTORY

Commissioner, Information Regulator (South Africa) · Dec 2016 – Nov 2026

Presidential appointment

Team: 27 staff across 4 committees | **Budget:** R140.00m institutional budget (2026/27) | **Scope:** national enforcement and oversight across approximately 60m data subjects

Mandate: Twice Presidential-appointed Commissioner of South Africa's Information Regulator, exercising national enforcement and oversight authority under POPIA and PAIA across public and private bodies.

Committee leadership: Chairs the Legal Committee and co-chairs the Compliance & Monitoring and Complaints & Investigations Committees; also serves on the Enforcement Committee, supporting legal strategy, complaints resolution, monitoring, investigations and binding enforcement decisions.

Selected impact: Drafted six Enforcement Notices, including matters involving WhatsApp, SARS, RTMC/OUTA and Blouberg Local Municipality; co-authored national POPIA/PAIA compliance instruments including the BASA/CBA Code of Conduct Guidelines, PIIA framework and PAIA Manual Guide; contributed to the first administrative fine imposed by the Regulator; supported complaint and breach-notification oversight at national scale; and helped co-found ANIC, now a 9-member African network with South Africa as Chair and permanent Secretariat.

Independent Legal Consultant & Advocate · Jan 2012 – Nov 2016

Adv. LC. Stroom, Self-employed practice · Affiliated with Duma-Nokwe Group of Advocates and The Bridge Group

Practice focus: Commercial litigation, insurance, company, administrative, competition and contract law | **Scope:** municipal, regulatory, procurement and forensic-investigation mandates

Advisory mandate: Operated an independent specialist legal and advocacy practice advising clients on commercial litigation, regulatory compliance, governance, administrative law and public-sector accountability.

Selected mandates: Acted for City of Johannesburg, Ekurhuleni and Mogale City municipalities on complex municipal and commercial matters; conducted SIU forensic investigations into procurement compliance for national government departments; and advised on litigation, insurance, company, administrative, competition, contract and property-law issues.

Litigation credibility: Appeared before the Supreme Court of Appeal in *Home Talk Developments (Pty) Ltd v Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality* [2017] ZASCA 77 as junior counsel for the Respondent alongside Senior Counsel.

EARLIER CAREER — FINANCIAL SERVICES, INSURANCE & COMPLIANCE

Role	Period	Selected Contribution
Compliance Specialist · Liberty Life (Retail SA Risk & Compliance)	Feb 2011 – Dec 2011	Managed legal and compliance risk across FICA, FAIS and insurance regulatory frameworks; provided regulatory advisory support to senior business stakeholders.
Legal Compliance Manager → Corporate Legal Manager → Business Development Manager · Sasria SOC Ltd	Mar 2008 – Jan 2011	Progressed through legal, compliance and business-development roles, supporting corporate legal advisory, regulatory compliance and stakeholder-facing commercial mandates.
Segment Compliance & Risk Manager · First National Bank (CFO & Support Segment, 11 business units)	Oct 2006 – Feb 2008	Managed compliance and operational-risk oversight across 11 CFO-support business units under the Banks Act, NCA, PFMA and King III; attended EXCO, Audit and Risk & Compliance Committee meetings.
Legal Officer · Santam Ltd (Legal Department)	Jul 2005 – Sep 2006	Provided legal, compliance and claims-related support within a regulated short-term insurance environment.
Candidate Attorney — Litigation & Collection · Hack, Stupel & Ross Attorneys	Nov 2003 – Apr 2005	Completed foundational litigation, collections and legal-practice training.

Earlier financial-services experience established a strong regulated-industry foundation across banking, insurance, compliance, corporate legal advisory and risk governance, including exposure to EXCO, Audit Committee and Risk & Compliance Committee environments.

REGULATORY ENFORCEMENT & POLICY TRACK RECORD

Instrument / Action	Period	Scale / Value	Outcome
WhatsApp Enforcement Notice	2024 – 2025	First African DPA enforcement action against a global social media platform	Landmark precedent; part of 6 binding Enforcement Notices
SARS / RTMC (OUTA) / Blouberg Municipality Enforcement Notices	2022 – 2025	6 binding Enforcement Notices in total	National enforcement doctrine established
BASA/CBA/Gated Communities Code of Conduct Guidelines, PIIA framework, PAIA Manual Guide	2016 – 2026	National compliance and governance instruments	Shaped governance/compliance culture across SA financial & public sectors
ANIC co-founding	2016 – 2026	9 member states; 6 bilateral MoUs	South Africa established as Chair & permanent Secretariat
CBE Appeals adjudication	Jan 2016 – Present	7 appeals decided	No statutory appeal decisions overturned on review

REGULATORY, GOVERNANCE & STAKEHOLDER ECOSYSTEM

Privacy, Access-to-Information & Governance Frameworks: POPIA and PAIA implementation, monitoring and enforcement; King III / King IV governance alignment; privacy-by-design and impact-assessment frameworks.

Legal and Regulatory Domains: Constitutional law, administrative justice, privacy rights, financial-services regulation, insurance, banking, procurement, corporate governance and public-sector accountability.

Regulatory Instruments and Enforcement Tools: Personal Information Impact Assessment frameworks, guidance notes, codes of conduct, Enforcement Notices, administrative fines and breach-notification oversight.

Stakeholder and Institutional Ecosystem: Parliament, Department of Justice and Constitutional Development, National Treasury, Financial Sector Conduct Authority, ANIC member states, financial-services institutions, public-sector bodies and pan-African regulatory networks.

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS & PROFESSIONAL STANDING

Qualification	Institution / Year
Master of Laws (LLM), Commercial Law	University of South Africa (UNISA) · 2009
Bachelor of Laws (LLB)	University of Pretoria · 2003

Qualification	Institution / Year
Postgraduate Certificate, Compliance Management	University of Johannesburg · 2008
Admitted Advocate — High Court SA (Gauteng Local Division, Johannesburg)	Legal Practice Council · 2012
Admitted Attorney — High Court SA (Gauteng Division, Pretoria)	Legal Practice Council · 2006
Certificate of Good Standing — no suspensions, no proceedings, all obligations current	Legal Practice Council · May 2026
CISA membership approved; IoDSA membership pathway in progress	ISACA / IoDSA · 2026

INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENTS & THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

Year	Engagement	Location
2026	Cross-Regulatory Workshop & Inclusive Fintech Forum — opening panellist, Cambridge Judge Business School / Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	Kigali, Rwanda
2026	SWIFT Workshop — invited speaker	Cape Town, SA
2025	ICIC XVI — Open Session participant: access to environmental information in a digital era	Berlin, Germany
2025	Regional Conference on Information Integrity — presenter on South Africa's role as ANIC Chair and permanent Secretariat	Praia, Cape Verde
2023	ICIC 14th Annual International Conference of Information Commissioners	Manila, Philippines
2022	NADPA — Network for African Data Privacy Authorities Assembly	Marrakech, Morocco
2017 / 2019	Global Privacy Assembly	Hong Kong; Tirana, Albania
2018	Benchmarking exercise — establishing the Information Regulator model	Toronto & Quebec City, Canada

MEDIA, PUBLICATIONS & SPEAKING

Media commentary: eNCA, SABC News and SAfm commentary on POPIA compliance, direct marketing regulation and data protection enforcement.

Expert commentary: MyBroadband commentary on South Africa's spam-call regulatory environment.

Speaking platforms: African Cyber Law Conference, Wits University — Panelist on data governance and cross-border regulatory flows; Pan-African forums — keynote speaker on data-governance policy frameworks.

Publication: *Relationship Status with the Human Rights Commission*.

STATUTORY APPOINTMENT ALIGNMENT

Information Regulator appointment relevance: Strongly aligned to appointment as a member of the Information Regulator on account of her legal qualifications, practising advocate and attorney standing, fit-and-proper professional record, direct POPIA and PAIA enforcement experience, public-accountability orientation, parliamentary reporting exposure, quasi-judicial decision-making and demonstrated ability to support fair, independent and constitutionally grounded regulatory oversight.

REFERENCES

Adv. Fumani Baloyi

Ms. Ndalama Maliseha