

CURRICULUM VITAE
CHRISCENTIA CAROLINE BLOUWS

BRIEF WORK SUMMARY

Transformative Social Justice and Human Rights Attorney with 12 years in law and over 14 years in social justice and human rights advocacy. Expertise in human rights and strategic impact litigation, feminist legal theory, and organisational transformation, advancing women's rights and embedding diversity, equity, and inclusion principles. Currently expanding influence through consultancy across sectors, driving systemic change and fostering inclusive cultures.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

ATTORNEY – LEGAL PRACTICE COUNCIL

May 2015 – present

WORK EXPERIENCE

Women's Legal Centre

Position: Strategic Litigation Attorney and Candidate Attorney Supervisor

Period: October 2018 – Present

Duties: Lead attorney in high-impact human rights and feminist litigation advancing women's rights in the workplace, home, and public life. Developing legal strategy, legal drafting and arguing of legal matters. My work combines legal strategy, movement building, public advocacy, policy reform, and institutional accountability. Managing the WLC candidate attorney programme.

Key focus areas: An intersectional approach to human rights with a key focus on labour rights and safe, equitable working environments. The right to be free from Violence and Women's independent rights to land, housing, and tenure security.

Landmark Matters: **Judicial Tribunal on Sexual Harassment against a Judge President (2025)**. I led the complainant's case in the first sexual harassment tribunal against a Judge President in South Africa's history, resulting in

unprecedented judicial accountability for workplace sexual harassment.

Mahlangu and Another v Minister of Labour and Others (CCT306/19) [2020] ZACC 24. I acted as amicus curiae in a Constitutional Court matter that extended social security protections to domestic workers in South Africa. My submissions contributed to the Court's explicit adoption of intersectionality as a legal concept, a first in South African constitutional jurisprudence.

S v P 2022 (SACR) 81 (WCC). This case advanced jurisprudence affirming women's rights to speak publicly about sexual violence and to name their perpetrators.

Booyesen v Major and Another (5043/2021) [2021] ZAWCHC 273. This case advanced jurisprudence affirming women's rights to speak publicly about sexual violence and to name their perpetrators.

Organisational Development & Safeguarding Consultant

Period: April 2025 – September 2025

Duties: Led organisational diagnostics focused on safeguarding, power dynamics, and institutional culture. Developed and reviewed safeguarding frameworks, reporting mechanisms, and accountability structures. Advised leadership on embedding DEI and trauma-informed practices across organisational systems.

Ndifuna Ukwazi

Position: Public Interest Litigation Attorney

Period: February 2017 – October 2018

Duties: I worked at the intersection of law, activism, and civil disobedience to advance access to housing and spatial justice. I served as the first lawyer on the ground during the 2017 Reclaim the City occupation of vacant government buildings. Six years later, these buildings remain occupied, having effectively provided housing through sustained community resistance.

Lawyers for Human Rights (Northern Cape)

Position: Litigation Attorney and office Manager
Period: April 2015 to February 2017
Duties: I drafted legal pleadings and conducted litigation and advocacy on behalf of farmworkers and farm dwellers. Managed office operations, staff supervision, and community outreach. Conducted training on evictions, labour protections, and domestic violence legislation.

Legal Resources Centre (Cape Town)

Position: Candidate Attorney (Articles of Clerkship)
Period: January 2013 - January 2015
Duties: Completed articles at one of South Africa's leading public interest law organisations, gaining a strong foundation in constitutional and human rights litigation.

NOTEWORTHY AFFILIATIONS

Saartjie Baartman Centre for Women and Children

Position: Deputy Chairperson – Board of Management
Period: April 2023 – Present
Duties: Provides strategic governance oversight, organisational leadership support, and feminist institutional guidance to one of South Africa's leading shelters for women and children.

Digital Society of Africa

Position: Digital Security & Human Rights Consultant
Period: May 2022 – Present
Duties: Provide human rights support to frontline activists and human rights defenders across Africa to identify and respond to digital threats, with a focus on intersectional risks and holistic digital responses.

PUBLICATIONS

1. A Feminist Legal Response to the Silencing and Repression of Women Who Survive Violence, Constitutional Court Review Journal, Volume 14, Issue 1, Dec 2024.
2. Intersectional Feminism as a tool to address climate change and a just transition for women working and living in precarious circumstances – Global Labour Rights Reporter (A Just Transition Law for Climate Justice), Volume 4, Issue 1, March 2025.

EDUCATION

Institution: National School of Government
Course: Nyuleka Senior Management Course
Ongoing: October 2025 – March 2026

Institution: University of Cape Town (UCT)
Course: Master's in law (LLM)
Period: 2026 – Ongoing

Institution: University of the Western Cape (UWC)
Course: Bachelor of Laws (LLB)
Period: 2008 – 2012