WERKSMANS
ATTORNEYS



Janine Hollesen

HEAD OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

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Janine Hollesen is a Director and Head of the Intellectual Property (IP) practice area. She specialises in all aspects of IP law, including trade mark clearance searches and registration; protection and enforcement of IP rights; IP litigation; unlawful competition; counterfeit goods; and domain name disputes. Janine also advises on commercial matters such as securitisation and due diligence investigations in M&A transactions. Her expertise also covers the protection of plant breeders' rights – including the commercialisation of new varieties and litigation relating thereto. Janine also advises clients in relation to copyright law including licensing; sale; and copyright disputes.

PRACTICE AREAS

- Intellectual Property
- Technology & Innovation

EXPERTISE

- All aspects of the intellectual property (IP) law and related matters, including
- IP litigation
- Trade mark searching and registration
- Unlawful competition
- Counterfeit goods
- Domain name disputes
- LP commercial transactions including the disposal and licensing of IP rights
- Plant breeders' rights commercialisation of new varieties and litigation relating thereto
- Copyright: advisory, litigation and commercial
- Advertising standards authority complaints

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Janine has been successful in a number of reported High Court and Supreme Court of Appeal decisions including the following:

- New Media Publishing (Pty) Limited v Eating Out Webs Services CC which is regularly cited in subsequent cases
- Weltevrede Nursery (Pty) Limited v Keith Kirsten's (Pty) Limited which is the only case which has been heard by the Supreme Court of Appeal in relation to the infringement of a Plant Breeder's Right registration and the cancellation thereof
- Pepkor Retail (Pty) Limited v Truworths Limited which has important consequences for the use and registration of descriptive trade marks
- Acting for Capitec Banking Limited in all IP matters which includes IP strategy and portfolio management

CAREER

- LLM, University of South Africa, 2003
- Admitted as an Attorney, 1999
- LLB, Stellenbosch University, 1996
- BA, Stellenbosch University, 1994

HIGHLIGHTS

- Ranked as a Leading Partner by Legal 500 | 2026 | Intellectual Property
- Ranked as a Leading Partner by Legal 500 | 2025 | Intellectual Property
- Ranked lawyer (Band 3) by Chambers Global | 2026 | Intellectual Property
- Ranked lawyer (Band 3) by Chambers Global | 2025 | Intellectual Property
- Named as a 'Trade Mark Star' by Managing Intellectual Property's IP Stars | 2016 – 2026
- Ranked as a recommended lawyer by WTR 1000 | 2025 | 2026 | Intellectual Property | Trademark
- Recognised as 'Thought Leader' by Who's Who Legal | 2024 | Intellectual Property | Trademarks
- Named in 'WIPR Leaders 2024' by World Intellectual Property Review | 2024
- Recognised as one of Africa's leading practitioners in the Who's Who Legal: Thought Leaders Africa 2024
- Recognised as a Global Leader by Who's Who Legal | 2023 | Intellectual Property | Trademarks
- Named in 'Top 250 Women in IP' by Managing Intellectual Property's IP Stars | 2024
- Ranked by WTR 1000 – the World's Leading Trademark Professionals, as a Leading Individual l 2021-2024
- Ranked lawyer (Band 4) by Chambers Global | 2020 – 2022 | Intellectual Property
- Ranked as a highly recommended lawyer by Legal 500 | 2010 – 2022, 2024 | Intellectual Property