




# REAL ESTATE LAW



*"The law firm offers a wide array of services and so can easily put together the appropriate team for the various matters we request legal assistance on."*

CHAMBERS GLOBAL 2023

## PRACTICE OVERVIEW

Whether you are a real estate investor, developer or corporate end user, you will not find greater breadth and depth of legal expertise in South Africa and Kenya, covering all the issues you face in relation to real estate, than at Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr (CDH).

With a team of almost 100 real estate partners, directors, associates, candidate attorneys, secretaries and consultants across Johannesburg, Cape Town, Nairobi and Stellenbosch, our Real Estate practice is unmatched in South Africa and Kenya. Our team has the depth of resources to handle large volumes of real estate transactions whatever their size or nature.

For more than 150 years, the Real Estate lawyers at CDH have added value by delivering innovative solutions practically.

Our extensive experience, strong track record and remarkable industry insight allow us to create synergies and opportunities between our clients. Our team in South Africa and Kenya is supported by lawyers from other practices within the firm with specialist skills in areas such as Finance & Banking, Tax & Exchange Control, Competition Law, Employment Law, Environmental Law and Dispute Resolution. With this comprehensive support structure, our Real Estate team offers a full range of services to assist you with any property transaction.

## OUR CLIENTS

We act for private sector clients across all asset types, ranging from banks and other financial services institutions to capital market players such as listed property funds, real estate investment funds, asset managers and property syndicates. We advise many local and international (institutional) investors.

Our clients include corporate and residential property owners, managers and occupiers, and developers of commercial, retail, industrial and residential properties.

Our clients belong to a broad range of industries including hospitality and leisure, energy and natural resources, infrastructure development and construction. We have expertise *inter alia*, advising on golf estates and game farms, timeshare schemes, cluster and sectional title developments, retirement villages, share blocks and the formation of residents associations.

In the public sector we act for government departments and state-owned entities, and we represent land and top structure developers in the affordable housing market.





*"Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr has handled very complex matters for us, always in a meticulous and solution-driven way."*

*"Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr always deals professionally with any kind of matter. Its responses are quick and issues are resolved as per expectations."*

**CHAMBERS GLOBAL 2024**

*"Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr team is experienced in this field and provides excellent service no matter the complexity of the matter."*

**CHAMBERS GLOBAL 2023**

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## OUR SERVICES

We advise on every component of a transaction, including commercial and private or residential real estate acquisitions and disposals, property finance, leasing, management and disputes, structuring, restructuring, and environmental and permit matters.

We understand the business needs of mortgage financiers.

We know the risk implications of the various forms of real security such as mortgage and notarial bonds. We have experience in securitisation schemes, acquisition and leveraged finance, project finance, syndicated lending and infrastructure and development. We have expertise in asset finance and the hypothecation of assets such as ships, aircraft and trademarks.

Our team advises banks and other financial institutions on structuring commercial and home loan products, systems and related processes, and all security and related standard documents.

*Clients say that "CDH offers a full capacity, diverse team that can do big complicated transactions with volume conveyancing as well as smaller transactions."*

THE LEGAL 500 EMEA 2023

## OUR SERVICES...continued

We also act for private individuals and are experts in conveyancing. We offer expertise in a large number of specialist areas and can advise on:



Commercial  
property  
agreements



Commercial  
property  
structuring



Real estate  
investment  
trusts



Sectional title  
developments



Transfers



Due diligence  
investigations



Land use  
rights



Leases



Mortgage  
bonds



Notarial  
work



Renewable  
energy



Owners  
associations

*"The one-stop legal practice is diverse with many areas of specialisation which assists in resolving matters in-house. They are professional legal practitioners who provide excellent client services. They conducted a number of virtual workshops during lockdown on a range of topics that businesses were battling to cope with that were pandemic related and availed themselves to provide any follow up advice in this regard."*

THE LEGAL 500 EMEA 2022

## MARKET RECOGNITION

Our Real Estate Law team is externally praised for its depth of resources, capabilities and experience.

*Chambers Global 2017–2023* ranked us in Band 1 for real estate.

*Legal 500 EMEA 2014–2023* recommended us in Tier 1 for real estate.

The way we support and interact with our clients attracts significant external recognition.

**Muhammad Gattoo** is the Practice Head of the Real Estate Law team. *The Legal 500 EMEA 2021–2023* recommended him for real estate.

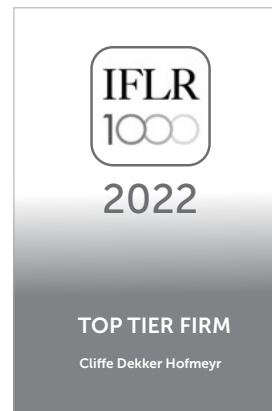
*The Legal 500 EMEA 2021–2023* recommended **Simóne Franks** for real estate.

*The Legal 500 EMEA 2023* recommended **Fatima Gattoo** for real estate.

*Chambers Global 2021–2023* ranked **John Webber** in Band 2 for real estate and in Band 3 in 2019–2020.

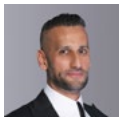
*The Legal 500 EMEA 2021–2023* recommended him as a leading individual for real estate.

*The Legal 500 EMEA 2022–2023* recommended **Samantha Kelly** for real estate.



## OUR TEAM

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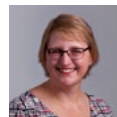
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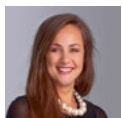
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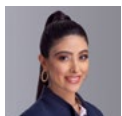
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**BBBEE STATUS: LEVEL ONE CONTRIBUTOR**

Our BBBEE verification is one of several components of our transformation strategy and we continue to seek ways of improving it in a meaningful manner.

**PLEASE NOTE**

This information is published for general information purposes and is not intended to constitute legal advice. Specialist legal advice should always be sought in relation to any particular situation. Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr will accept no responsibility for any actions taken or not taken on the basis of this publication.

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