



Kylene Weyers

Director – Business Rescue, Restructuring & Insolvency sector



INCORPORATING
KIETI LAW LLP, KENYA

Q *Where did your journey begin and how did you end up where you are today?*

A During the period of 2008 and 2013, I completed my B.Com (Law), LLB and LLM degrees at the University of Johannesburg. I obtained all 3 of my degrees Cum Laude. It was whilst studying my LLM degree that my interest in business rescue and insolvency was sparked.

I started my career in 2014 as a Candidate Attorney at Hogan Lovells, where I was appointed as an Associate in 2016 and promoted to Senior Associate in 2018. I joined Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr as a Senior Associate in December 2018 and was promoted to Director in April 2022. I specialise in business rescue, restructuring, insolvency, corporate recovery and general commercial litigation. I represent various major corporate clients, creditors, liquidators, trustees and business rescue practitioners.

To get to where I am today has taken years of hard work, passion, resilience, commitment, determination, perseverance, grit, and a positive attitude. I have embraced each challenge on my legal journey as an opportunity to grow personally and professionally. I have always strived for excellence in everything I do and ensured that client satisfaction is my number one priority. I am a definite team player and I believe that so much more can be achieved together, than when operating alone. I have also always had a strong sense of purpose for the work that I do, and I think that this has helped me continuously move forward on my journey.

Q *What, if any, hurdles did you have to face in an industry that has traditionally been male-dominated?*

A As women, we are regularly on the front lines of overcoming patriarchal constraints and barriers, not only in the

legal fraternity but also in life in general.

Given that I joined the business rescue and insolvency industry as early as my first year as a Candidate Attorney, I very quickly became used to being one of the only females in the room. The initial hurdle I faced in my career as a young female legal practitioner was being overlooked or underestimated by my male counterparts. However, the more I started establishing myself in my career and growing in self-confidence in my abilities and competence, the bolder and more empowered I quickly became in being my authentic self in all of my interactions in the workplace.

Although we still have a long way to go in completely overcoming all of the challenges faced by women today, I do believe that we have made significant strides in doing so over the last few years and that women are moving forward and doing great things in their respective practice areas.

I believe that the legal fraternity (and in particular the business rescue and insolvency industry) can only benefit and be strengthened by the inclusion of more women, and I do hope to see more women in my industry going forward. It is up to us as women to collectively build the foundation and create a platform where other women can feel empowered and confident in the value that they add.

Q *What is the most memorable matter you have worked on in your career?*

A I played the lead role in representing Trudon (Pty) Ltd (“Trudon”) (a subsidiary of Telkom) in the sequestration of Adriaan and Fredrika Van Vuuren, who committed a R512 million serial fraud against Trudon. I also represented Trudon in bringing liquidation applications against the interrelated entities, and thereafter acted for the appointed liquidators of these companies. In addition, I represented the trustees in the insolvent estate of the Van Vuurens in conducting an insolvency

enquiry and taking enforcement measures to recover the stolen monies.

This matter contributed hugely to my growth and professional development as an attorney.

Q *What is one goal you have set yourself for 2022 and are you on track to reach it?*

A My goal for 2022 was to be promoted to Director at CDH and I am honoured to have reached this goal. I am proud to know that all my hard work and dedication spanning across my entire legal career has culminated to this point. Onwards and upwards I go.

Q *What is your favourite quote?*

A Success is a journey, not a destination.

Q *Do you have any unusual hobbies?*

A It is not an unusual hobby per se, but it is definitely not a sport that the majority of women enjoy. I am an avid mountain biker and have completed a few of the major mountain bike stage races, including Wines2Whales, Sani2c and Berg & Bush. I was also part of the MAD2Ride team that cycled 1 620km from Johannesburg to Cape Town in 8 days, to raise money for the MAD Leadership Foundation.

Q *What book are you reading at the moment?*

A I am reading *Becoming Supernatural* by Dr Joe Dispenza. It is a book on spiritual enlightenment, the power of the mind and how to reach an extraordinary state of being.

Q *What is your favourite holiday destination?*

A The best holiday of my life was my trip to the Maldives with my husband for our honeymoon.. 🏖️