Viyola Van Zyl

Senior Associate

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Viyola is an outstanding Senior Associate, combining technical expertise, commercial judgement and growing leadership capabilities that distinguish her as a promising emerging transactional lawyer.

She has progressed rapidly, earning the confidence of partners, colleagues and clients through her ability to take ownership of complex matters and deliver results. Her practice spans private and public M&A, equity capital markets, corporate governance and general corporate advisory. Across more than 20 matters, she has led workstreams, negotiated key transaction documents, coordinated stakeholders and specialist advisers, and helped drive deals to completion.

Her experience includes advising as South African counsel on Sana Bidco's proposed £1,7 billion acquisition of Assura plc, extensive involvement in the Boxer Retail JSE listing, and a key role in the Sphere Holdings and Sanlam restructuring transactions. These mandates required sophisticated legal analysis, regulatory engagement and coordination across multiple jurisdictions and workstreams.

Viyola excels at translating complex legal and regulatory challenges into practical commercial solutions. She combines precision and execution discipline with a clear understanding of client objectives, increasingly engaging directly with clients and stakeholders on critical transaction issues.

Beyond dealmaking, she is committed to developing future legal talent through mentoring junior associates and candidate legal practitioners, delivering technical training, contributing to document-automation initiatives, participating in leadership development programmes and supporting pro bono work.

Viyola exemplifies the qualities of excellence, initiative, commercial pragmatism and a commitment to developing others. Her strong transaction record and continued growth in responsibility position her well for future leadership in South Africa's M&A profession.

