



# Annelle de Jager

Legal & Cost Consultant Expert

19 March, 1987

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## Legal & Cost Consulting Expert

I'm an Advocate of the High Court of South Africa with 13 years of experience, and I've built my career around helping clients navigate the often complex world of legal costs, IT law, and software law.

### Education

**Computer Science for Lawyers (in progress)**  
Harvard Law School Executive Education

2025

**Admitted Advocate Of The High Court**  
Completed the Law Society Practical Legal Training course

2024

**Software Law Course**  
University of Cape Town Law@Work

2022

**Certificate in Legal Costs**  
Law Society in Association with Legal Education And Development

2022

**Accredited Mediator**  
Association of Arbitrators (South Africa)  
(Course delivered by London Society of Mediators)

2021

**Passed Attorneys Admission Examination**  
Legal Practice Council

2019

**Bachelor of Law (LLB)**  
University Of South Africa (UNISA)

2012

### Professional Skills

I'm really good at:

**Drafting of Legal Documents**

95%

**Legal Research**

91%

**Case Law Interpretation**

95%

**Creative Problem Solving**

93%

**Emotional Intelligence**

98%

**Mediation & Negotiation**

91%

**Conflict Resolution**

95%

**Attention to Detail**

98%

## Career Highlights

Over the past 13 years, I have developed a dedicated practice focused on legal costs, offering expert representation and advice in cost-related litigation and dispute resolution. I regularly appear in the High Court and other forums on matters involving the taxation of bills of cost, cost recoveries, party-and-party and attorney-and-client cost disputes, as well as cost implications arising from settlement negotiations.

I have acted for a diverse range of clients, including legal practitioners, corporates, and public entities, and am known for my precise understanding of procedural rules governing costs, and my ability to argue complex quantum disputes effectively. My practice also includes the drafting and opposing of bills of cost and representing clients in taxing masters' hearings.

This specialization has positioned me as a trusted resource in high-value, cost-sensitive litigation.

## Work Experience

April 2014 – Current

### **Legal Cost Consultant / Owner** **Astute Legal Cost Consultants**

In 2014, I took the step to establish my own legal consultancy focused exclusively on legal costs. Since then, I've worked independently with law firms, corporate clients, and government entities, offering tailored advice and representation in all aspects of cost litigation. Building my own practice has allowed me to deliver hands-on, personalised service while maintaining the high professional standards expected in this specialised field.

- General duties related to the general management of a company.
- General admin duties.
- Drawing, Taxation and Opposition of legal bills of costs in the High Courts, Magistrate's Courts, Supreme Court of Appeal, Labor Court and Competition Tribunal.

1 August 2013 – April 2014

### **Owner / Designer** **Spoiled Rotten**

Founded and ran a creative design business specialising in custom vinyl decals, t-shirt printing, canvas art, and WordPress-based wedding websites.

Responsible for all aspects of design, production, and online store management—including product listings, order processing, and deliveries.

*The business was successfully sold following the expiry of my restraint of trade.*

1 August 2010 – 31 July 2013

### **Legal Cost Consultant** **Rudolf Fuls Legal Cost Consultant**

Provided support in the preparation and review of legal bills of cost, including sorting attorney files, dictation, and quality control.

Assisted with general administrative and secretarial duties, and conducted legal research focused on case law relating to costs.

1 September 2008 – 31 July 2010

### **Legal / Litigation Secretary** **Louis Weinstein Attorney (General Litigation, Family Law and Criminal Law)**

Handled a wide range of secretarial and administrative duties, including switchboard management, Dictaphone typing, legal document preparation for High and Magistrate's Courts, and client communication. Assisted in legal matters across multiple practice areas such as divorces, deceased estates, civil claims, and criminal cases. Also conducted CIPC and Deeds Office searches, registered shelf companies, and managed annual returns.

2 August 2006 – 30 August 2008

### **Legal / Conveyancing Secretary** **Louis Bergh & Associates (General Litigation, Conveyancing and Family Law)**

Provided comprehensive secretarial support, including switchboard management, Dictaphone typing, client queries, and diary management. Specialized in conveyancing duties such as handling property transfers, bond registrations, and cancellations, while liaising with banks, SARS, Local Government, and the Deeds Office. Assisted with a variety of legal matters, including divorces, antenuptial agreements, wills, and notarial tie agreements.

## Computer Proficiency

Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, Publisher), WordPerfect, and LegalPerfect. Experienced in working with both Microsoft Windows and Macintosh platforms. Basic knowledge of design software such as Photoshop, Illustrator, and Procreate. Skilled in general troubleshooting, including resolving printing and network issues.

## Legal Skills

With over 10 years of experience across various legal fields, I possess a comprehensive understanding of law and its processes. My expertise includes:

**Contract Law:** Proficient in drafting, reviewing, and providing legal advice on contracts, ensuring all formal and legal requirements are met.

**Legal Costs:** Highly skilled in preparing high-quality bills of costs for all courts.

**Legal Research:** Passionate about legal research and problem-solving to address complex legal issues.

**Litigation:** In-depth knowledge of criminal and civil litigation, including court procedures.

## Personal Interests

Outside of my legal work, I enjoy spending time walking my dogs, indulging in arts and crafts, and building intricate Lego creations. I'm also an avid PC gamer, always ready to unwind with a good game. These activities help me stay balanced and fuel my creativity and problem-solving skills.

## Declaration

I hereby declare that the information provided in this CV is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any false information or misrepresentation may disqualify me from consideration for any role or opportunity. I am committed to upholding the highest standards of professionalism and integrity in all aspects of my career.

*Ade Iager*