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## WIPO LIST OF NEUTRALS

### BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

Charné LE ROUX  
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Cape Town  
South Africa



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Date of Birth: January 24, 1969

Nationality: South African

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### EDUCATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

LLB., University of Pretoria, Pretoria, 1991-92.

B. Iuris, University of Pretoria, Pretoria, South Africa, 1987-89;

Admitted to High Court of South Africa.

Qualified Trade Marks practitioner.

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### LANGUAGES

English

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### PRESENT POSITION

Partner, Adams & Adams Attorneys, Intellectual Property Law.

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May 11, 2016

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### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE BEFORE PRESENT POSITION**

Candidate Attorney, Rooth & Wessels Attorneys, January 1992- February 1994;

- Commenced articles in the commercial department, assisted in drafting High Court papers, drafting commercial contracts including sale, lease and employment contracts as well as trust deeds.
- Exposure to the functions and administrative management of the South African Medical and Dental Council in matters pertaining to medical law. Assisting in the holding of disciplinary hearings, and taking over management of all cases being taken on review.

Public Prosecutor in the Magistrates Court Durban, Department of Justice (February 1991 - December 1991).

- Duties consisted of managing and administering a criminal court, charging and prosecuting the accused, relating with the public and police in order to create workable relationships.
- Relief Staff Prosecutor, Department Of Justice:
- Duties consisted of taking over the criminal and maintenance court rolls, public relations duties, processing and drafting death inquests, office management and filing formal reports, reporting to the attorney general.

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### **AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION**

Specializes in the following subjects in Intellectual Property Law (primarily with reference to litigation and dispute resolution) : trade mark infringements and oppositions; company name and close corporation name objections, advertising disputes; domain name objections; anti-counterfeiting law; copyright infringements; unlawful competition including passing off; anti-trust law; drafting licensing and franchising agreements. Also manages IP portfolios.

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### **MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL BODIES**

Fellow, South African Institute of Intellectual Property Law (SAIIP);  
 Member, Copyright and Competition Law Committee of SAIIP;  
 Member, Copyright Committee of the South African Law Society.

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### **EXPERIENCE IN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

Nine years experience as attorney in field of intellectual property. Qualified as trade mark practitioner in 1996. Principal nature of functions include litigator, mediator, copyright and trade mark licensing contracts, portfolio management, assist Government organisations with respect to policies and procedures, lecturer.

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### **EXPERIENCE WITH RESPECT TO DOMAIN NAMES**

Has been actively involved in the field of domain names and related disputes since 1996, (when the Internet became accessible to South African). Responsibilities include: assisting clients in selecting and registering domain names; providing general advice on the domain name operating systems locally and internationally; the various registries and their dispute resolution policies; ICANN's rules and policy and anti-cybersquatting laws. Also involved in domain name disputes in attending to the filing of complaints in accordance with ICANN's rules and policy or making suitable applications to court and also in mediating amicable solutions in conflict situations.

Has presented papers on domain names and how to resolve disputes relating to them at national and

local business conferences, client seminars and to legal associations.

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### **MAJOR PUBLICATIONS**

Trade Mark World  
Local press

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### **EXPERIENCE IN COURT LITIGATION**

Acted as attorney in over 40 court cases in courts of first instance and higher courts in South Africa over the period 1994 to present time. Subject matter of the court cases concerned trade mark infringement, copyright infringement, domain name objections, company and close corporation name objections, unlawful competition, trade mark oppositions, counterfeiting and general contractual disputes. Also worked closely in an advisory role in several trade mark infringement and opposition cases in Germany, Korea, Australia, United Kingdom, Botswana, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Kenya, Mozambique, Zambia and Nigeria.

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### **EXPERIENCE IN MEDIATION**

Acted as attorney in over 20 national and international mediations. The mediations were ad hoc and concerned trade mark, copyright and domain name disputes.

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