

CHRIS Nicholson SC has been appointed to the Natal Provincial Division of the Supreme Court of South Africa on 1 January 1996. He was born in Richmond, Natal, on 5 February 1945. He went to school at Cordwalles Preparatory School and Michaelhouse where he matriculated in 1963. At Michaelhouse he was a school prefect and captain of the first cricket and tennis teams and vice-captain of the first rugby team. He subsequently obtained the degrees of BA and LLB at the University of Natal. He represented the university's first cricket team and South African universities' cricket team on a tour of England in 1967. After serving as a clerk for one year in 1969 to Mr Justice R Hill in Pretoria, he was admitted as an advocate in Windhoek, South West Africa, where he practised until December 1971. One of the reasons for going to SWA was to help with voluntary work in the Anglican Church. He played cricket for SWA and proposed that non-racial sport be introduced in that country. This became so controversial that his practice suffered.

He commenced practice in Durban in January 1971. He helped to found the first non-racial cricket club, Aurora, in Pietermaritzburg which was threatened with prosecution by the government. At that stage there was some emphasis in his practice on human rights – he defended Harry Gwala in a marathon trial in the mid-seventies and was involved in a number of political trials. He subsequently started the Durban branch of the Legal Resources Centre in 1982 and was appointed as its first director. Prior to and during his work with the Legal Resources Centre, he undertook litigation and was involved in a large number of reported cases – broadly of a human rights nature. He also became active in labour law.

Judge Nicholson is the author of a number of books, compilations, and articles. He is also on the editorial board of the *South African Journal for Human Rights*.

While on sabbatical during the Hilary term at Linacre College, Oxford, in 1987, he became fascinated by the use of computers on the law. Since then he has kept abreast of developments, especially the use of foreign data bases. He believes that the judiciary should make more use of computer technology to gain access to foreign law via the Internet and other international data bases. Judge Nicholson is married to Jillian Frances Almond and they have two daughters.



Judge Nicholson

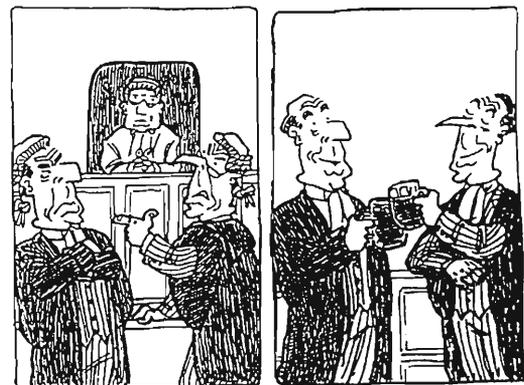
Cape Provincial Division

New judge



Judge Louw

WILLEM Johannes Louw SC has been appointed as a judge of the Cape Provincial Division from 1 January 1996. He was born in Steynsburg, North Eastern Cape on 8 September 1943. He matriculated at the Worcester Boys High School in 1961 and subsequently did his military service in the Army Gimnasium. After obtaining the degrees of BA (Law) and LLB at the University of Stellenbosch, he was appointed as a senior lecturer in private law at the University of Fort Hare in 1968. This was followed by an appointment as senior lecturer in private law at the University of the Western Cape. Judge Louw commenced practice at the Cape Bar in 1974 and was elected a member of the Cape Bar Council in 1979. He was granted silk on 11 August 1992. He was a member or chair-person of some ad hoc disciplinary committees appointed by the Cape Bar Council from time to time and held appointments as acting judge in 1993 and 1995. At the time of leaving the Cape Bar, he served as one of the two fee ombudsmen to mediate in fee disputes between members of the Bar and instructing attorneys. Judge Louw is married to Francisca Steyn van Rooyen and they have two children, a daughter and a son.



From: Stuart + Francis Queen's Counsel.