

Free State

By Henriette Murray, Bloemfontein

New judge

Judge Jake Moloi's long and distinguished legal career fittingly culminated on 22 October 2009 in his being welcomed to the Free State Bench as permanent judge by Judge President HM Musi. Not only was Judge Moloi born and bred in Kestell but in 1979, after serving in the Department of Justice as interpreter, prosecutor and magistrate, he became the Free State's first black attorney, opening his own practice in Welkom in 1980. In 1997 he obtained his LLM degree in Human Rights from the University of the Free State and in 2003 an LLM degree in International Commercial Law from the University of Stellenbosch.

In 1996 Judge Moloi became a member of the Amnesty Committee of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in Cape Town. He was appointed as head of the Attorney General's Office in Pretoria in 1998. From 2000-2001 Judge Moloi co-chaired the Law Society of South Africa and served as president of the Black Lawyers' Association from 1997-2001. In 2002 he became the first executive chairperson of the Arbitration Forum in Cape Town. From 2003-2006 he was contracted by the European Union in Brussels to assist in regulating and improving international trade relations. A qualified and experienced forensic investigator, he was involved in criminal-legal research at the Institute for Security Studies in Pretoria until his

acting appointments to the Free State, Northern and Western Cape Benches for several terms in 2008 and 2009.

As its 14th permanent member, Judge Moloi therefore brings to the Free State Bench a wealth of national and international legal experience.

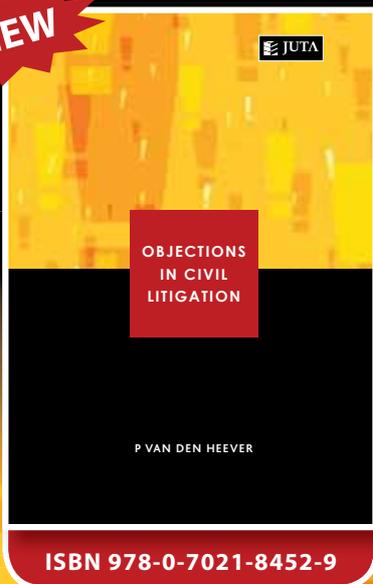
New silk: Paul Zietsman SC



The FS Bar gained a tenth silk in 2009 with Paul Zietsman taking silk in November 2009. Paul obtained his BJuris LLB degrees at UNISA while working for the Department of Justice, among others as magistrate in Petrus Steyn, Free State. He was admitted as an advocate in August 1989 and has practised as a member of the Free State Bar from 1990. He acted on the Free State Bench in the second term of 2007.

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By Patrick van den Heever



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