

Personal Details

Surname : Samsity
First name : Dhanashree
Physical Address :

Postal Address :

Telephone :

Email address :
Date of Birth :
Identity Number :
Gender : Female
Marital Status : Single
Drivers License : Yes, Code
Nationality : South African
Home Language : English
Other Languages : Afrikaans
Health : Excellent
Criminal Offences : None

Academic Qualifications

School Name : Dunveria Secondary
Pietermaritzburg
Highest Standard Passed : Grade 12 (Senior Certificate with

Endorsement [Merit]

Year Completed	:	2002
Subjects	:	1. English (HG) 2. Afrikaans (HG) 3. Mathematics (HG) 4. Physical Science (HG) 5. Biology (HG) 6. Computer Studies (HG) Optional Extra Subject Self Study 7. History (HG)
Distinctions Obtained	:	Afrikaans (HG) History (HG)
Prizes and Awards	:	1. Most Promising Student (1997) 2. Bilinguality (2002) 3. Awards 1994-2002 for top five positions in each Grade.
Leadership Roles	:	Deputy Head Prefect
Hobbies and Interests	:	1. Reading 2. Cooking 3. Listening to music

Tertiary Education

Institute	:	University of KwaZulu-Natal
Degree Obtained	:	Bachelor of Laws (LLB)

I obtained First Class Passes (> 75%) in 20 modules including : Legal Studies 211: Family Law, Clinical Law (awarded *Certificate of Merit*), Interpretation of Statutes, Law of Evidence, Computer Science 103,

Deans Commendations:	2003, 2004 and 2005
Achievement	Granted Membership to Golden Key International Honour Society.
Extramural Activities	: In 2006 I was elected a Legal Studies Tutor in the following modules- 1. Introduction to Law 2. Foundations of South African Law

I graduated with my Bachelor of Laws degree in 2007 such degree was conferred to me on 15 April 2008. I therefore have over 14 years experience post qualification. I definitely meet the criteria of at least 8 years post qualification experience. I have over 5 years experience in legal practice. I have in depth and extensive experience and knowledge of Maintenance as I am presently a Maintenance Officer dealing with advanced and complex maintenance matters in Pietermaritzburg. I have adequate experience in civil and criminal litigation. I prepare matters for criminal prosecution of Maintenance defaulters so that the criminal section may prosecute. I am experienced in Trial Advocacy as I have represented accused (maintenance defaulters) when I was a Practising Attorney. I have extensive knowledge of the Maintenance Act, 99 of 1998. I manage maintenance matters on a daily basis and I have extensive knowledge and experience in Domestic violence, child justice and trafficking in persons. I collaborate effectively with all stakeholders. I have excellent management skills. I have extensive experience in complex civil litigation of maintenance matters. I have experience in drafting complex court documents. I work well independently and without constant supervision. I have excellent computer skills and administrative skills.

My further experience is as follows:

- I guide Maintenance investigators and legal interns in their duties
- I provide accurate and reliable statistics
- I prepare opinions and heads of argument in Maintenance Cases
- I consult, prepare and appear for reciprocal enforcement of maintenance matters(overseas maintenance)
- I prepare matters for criminal prosecution by showing a prima face case after all necessary investigations are done
- I provide sound legal advice on Maintenance to my colleagues, clerks, stakeholders, district prosecutors as I have extensive knowledge and experience.
- I deliver seminars on Maintenance to University Law Students.
- I have offered my assistance with Maintenance advice for community outreach organised by the National Prosecuting Authority.
- I appear for informal and formal maintenance enquiries and examine and cross examine parties
- I prepare maintenance cases for court and examine evidence
- I prepare applications for anti dissipation(future maintenance) which currently is not contained in the Maintenance Act but derived from case law.
- I was appointed a panel member on selection committee for Maintenance Officers for posts in 2019 and 2022 for the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Articles of Clerkship : I completed my articles of clerkship at Sarawan and Company, Pietermaritzburg from 2008 to 18 March 2010.

19 March 2010 – 31 October 2013:

I was admitted as an Attorney on 19 March 2010(admission certificate attached, with certificate of rights of appearance in High Court and

Constitutional Court) and was employed as professional assistant Attorney at Sarawan and Company until 31 August 2010 I gained extensive experience in Family Law related matters especially Maintenance, Domestic Violence, Childrens Court, Civil Litigation and criminal matters. I dealt with Magistrate court Matters but then also attended to High court matters and pre-trial conferences. I Prepared merit reports and quantum reports for clients. I appeared in the High Court and attended to admission of Attorneys. From 1 September 2010 to 31 December 2012 I was employed at Sangham Incorporated in Pietermaritzburg as an Attorney where I gained further experience in criminal matters, civil litigation, family law matters, labour court matters, and law relating to child justice and trafficking in persons and I obtained a post graduate certificate in Labour Law from the University of KwaZulu-Natal. From 1 January 2013 to 31 October 2013, I was employed again by Sarawan and Company as an Attorney and dealt with taxations and civil litigation.

1 November 2013 to present date.

In October 2013, I was awarded the post of **Maintenance Officer** with the Department of Justice and Constitutional development. I commenced with the Department of Justice on the 1st November 2013. **I presently hold the post of Maintenance Officer.** My job function includes ensuring that Maintenance is obtained in line with the Maintenance Act and applicable Law. My present rank is academically fulfilling as I keep up to date with the Law and various cases that emanate. I work well under pressure as we are short staffed, there being only two Maintenance Officers in my court building and our court in Pietermaritzburg is a busy and diverse court, yet I do not compromise on efficient service delivery. My work is meticulous, over the years I have been instrumental in many changes that have taken place within the Maintenance section. I had noticed that there was no proper record of what transpired on a file and when you are seized with the file it becomes challenging to decipher what had transpired before, therefore I consulted with my supervisor at the time and Magistrates and designed an outcome of directive hearing which details all activities on a file. I go the extra mile, by further presenting the court with calculations which the parties are informed of so as to allow them to make informed decisions. **I educate and train the clerks and Maintenance Investigators as well as external stakeholders** for example, University Law students and Student Chapters. **I conduct formal and informal enquiries.** I am pleased to note that none of my decisions refusing to institute an enquiry have been subject to an appeal nor review. I deal efficiently with matters and explain to parties why their applications might be lacking and how to do a proper application. Working as a team has greatly assisted in making our courts one of the more impressive courts. My knowledge of the law is impeccable and I strive to ensure that I remain up to date with the Law. **I draft complex documents** for example application for **interdicts relating to future maintenance.** I guide Maintenance Investigators in their Investigations. My communication and motivational skills are excellent as I lectured University Students and have attached feedback from the students who attended my lectures. I have devised a system of working effectively with all role players.

I have devised a suitable system of referring matters that are warranted for Criminal prosecution to the prosecutors by presenting a *prima facie*

case to the prosecutors. I deal with overseas maintenance in line with the Reciprocal enforcement of Maintenance Orders Act and often assist other courts and offer advice to my colleagues with regards to overseas Maintenance because of my knowledge and experience with that area. I plan and organize the daily schedule of matters effectively . I take initiative and I am able to work independently without constant supervision.

I provide statistics daily to my administrative manager Ms Carla Hack as well as the Senior Public Prosecutor for Maintenance in KwaZulu-Natal Ms S Erasmus who supervises Maintenance Officers professionally. My knowledge of the Maintenance System is sound and in depth. My informal and formal enquiries in Maintenance are thoroughly done and I conduct in depth calculations in complex matters and court addresses. I effectively prepare matters for court.

I have successfully completed online courses with the National school of Government. I have attached printouts of these certificates that were awarded online. I completed the **Operations Framework Management Course, Introduction to Policy Formulation and Implementation** course, **Introduction to Strategic Human Resources Management** these are important areas and I have the knowledge to address these matters. These courses equip me with the knowledge to develop, review and participate in drafting of policies, procedures and related legislation. The other online courses that further equip me for a supervisory role include Policy and Procedure on Incapacity Leave and Ill –health Retirement, **Writing for Government**, Introduction to Financial Management and Budgeting, **Introduction to Leading Change**.

In 2019 the Department of Justice awarded me a performance bonus of 6 percent in light of my performance assessment.

My present post of Maintenance Officer demands leadership skills, analytical and problem solving as well quick thinking, which I conform to. I work during my lunch break and even after hours at times to ensure my matters are ready for court.

In 2023, my work performance was scored at 130% thereby showing my work is meticulous.

In January 2024, I completed the Nyukela Public Service SMS pre-entry programme and received a certificate of successful completion of the oline course.

I verily believe that I have the credentials and aptitude to be part of your organisation. I believe that I will be an asset and assist improve service delivery. Being a Maintenance Officer is not a job to me but rather my passion. This is what would set apart from other candidates, I do not view a post that I apply for just as a job, I see it as my passion, if you are passionate about anything you will be good at it, you will want to be productive.

The reason I make application is to enhance my self- development. As I definitively have more than 10 years cumulative legal experience post qualification. Although I am resident in Pietermaritzburg I have no encumbrances and I am willing to relocate. I believe change is good and being in a new place and passionate about one's job is about one of the best

