



Advocate Tommy Prins SC Director

Profile

BA LLB University of Stellenbosch

Admitted as Advocate to the Supreme Court of South Africa 11 July 1979

Elevated to the status of Senior Counsel 7 May 2002

Born: 4 February 1955

Professional Experience

Tommy is a director in Deloitte Forensic and the Head of Investigations with an oversight role over South Africa, East Africa and the Southern Corridor.

Prior to taking up his present position, Tommy had joined the Department of Justice on 1 January 1979. After serving one year as a public prosecutor in the Magistrate's Courts in Wellington, Alberton and Wynberg (Cape Province), he was transferred to the Office of the Attorney General in Cape Town (January 1980) as State Advocate. Tommy was promoted to the rank of Senior State Advocate and subsequently promoted to the position of Deputy Attorney General in April 1992. Tommy was a founder member of the Office for Serious Economic Offences (OSEO) and headed the Office for Serious Economic Offences in Cape Town from 1992 until 2000. When the Directorate of Special Operations (DSO) or the "Scorpions" was established in 2000 he was appointed as the Regional Head - Western Cape responsible for the Western and Northern Cape. He held this position until the end of October 2003 when he joined Deloitte.

On 7 May 2002 Tommy was elevated to the status of Senior Counsel by the State President.

During his 12 years at the Office of the Attorney General he acted on behalf of the State in a wide variety of cases in the Supreme Court and argued numerous appeals in the Appellate Division.

Tommy also assumed significant responsibility for the commercial/economic crime-related work in the office in respect of decisions on cases reported to the office, the oversight of the work activities of colleagues and the conduct of prosecutions.

As office head of both the OSEO and Scorpions in Cape Town he was responsible for the running of the office, the identification of the most complex and high profile economic and organised crime cases and the expeditious investigation thereof. Tommy has personally conducted and managed huge and high profile commercial investigations in 26 other countries. His work entailed interviewing witnesses from all walks of life including government ministers, diplomats, lawyers, accountants and company directors.

He has addressed numerous national and international conferences and conventions in the fields of law and investigations.

With 34 years' experience he is regarded as one of the leading experts on commercial crime and the investigation thereof in the country.

Since joining Deloitte, he has been involved as the country team leader in respect of numerous international compliance reviews and investigations conducted in terms of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA), promulgated by the United States and in terms of the regulations of the Office for Foreign Asset Control.

Tommy has also been involved in the facilitation of learning provided by the University of South Africa (UNISA), to a Malawian delegation in respect of the establishment and functioning of the recently created Anti-Corruption Bureau in Malawi. He was also involved in training interventions in respect of investigators attached to the Special Investigations Unit and the Competition Commission under the auspices of UNISA. He has also headed a team to Lesotho to provide training to the investigators and prosecutors attached to the Directorate for Corruption and Economic Crime. He provided training to employees attached to DaimlerChrysler and the SA National Roads Agency. Tommy was the team leader in respect of the training of 425 officials attached to the Department of Correctional Services over a period of twelve months on topics such as Fraud and Theft, Corruption, Money laundering and the investigation thereof.

In 2014 Tommy was appointed as an extraordinary associate-professor in the School of Accounting Sciences for the Programme in Forensic Accountancy.
