

FIRM PROFILE

www.cmadvocates.rw



ABOUT US

CM Advocates is a full service law firm in the area of business law, Banking and Finance, Insurance, Acquisition, Corporate and Commercial Matters, Energy and Mining as well as other areas of law. Headquartered in Nairobi & Mombasa (Kenya), with offices in Kigali (Rwanda); Kampala (Uganda); and Dar Es Salam (Tanzania), the entire team of CM Advocates comprises of over 60+ legal practitioners making CMA one of the most recognized and full-service firms in East Africa. The firm's office in Rwanda aspires to be the premier legal and business advisory firm in the country by providing our customers with a a one stop-shop for their business advisory needs and a world-class client experience. The team comprises of three (3) advocates, two (2) non admitted lawyers with diverse legal experience and two (2) support staff. The team has the ability to work in English, French and Kinyarwanda.



HOW WE WORK

In order to achieve ours and our clients aspirations, we work directly or in collaboration with other like-minded professional service firms and persons, within our market niche in order to meet and exceed the expectations of our clients.

As our vision suggests, our unique selling proposition is that we add value to our client, protect their interests in the best possible way to succeed. We believe as a firm we can only succeed with our clients.

Most importantly, all interactions and relationships with our customers are shaped by our values which include professionalism, respect, commitment, excellent services, efficiency and integrity.





OUR CLIENTELE

The firm's clientele is both local, international and a cross-cutting across various sectors of our economy. These include banks and financial institutions, insurance companies, manufacturers, real estate developers, government corporations, religious and charitable organizations, small and medium sized businesses, individual clients and other enterprises.

To remain on the cutting edge, CMA fosters a working environment that puts emphasis on respect for diversity, team work, continuous learning, knowledge sharing and peer review amongst its professional team of lawyers. This has enabled the firm to carve a niche in the existing as well as new or emerging branches or areas of law.



PRACTICE AREAS

CORPORATE AND COMMERCIAL TRANSACTIONS

Our service offerings under this department include, but are not limited to, company incorporation, mergers and acquisitions, share deals and corporate restructuring. We carry out the registration of various forms of business entities.

We also advise our clients on specific laws that govern their operations and other compliance issues. We also offer company secretarial and trust services in relation to companies.

BANKING AND FINANCE

The firm has vast experience in the preparation of banking security documentation including perfection of simple and complex mortgages and debentures for individuals and companies (as the case may be).

The firm is also proficient in the preparation of related security documents including discharge of charges, deeds of guarantee, deeds of assignment, deeds of priority, security sharing agreements, loan agreements, deed subordination agreements and escrow agreements, debt restructuring as well as other models of raising capital such as private equity arrangement and loan syndication.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & TECHNOLOGY

Our firm provides business solutions that define and protect our clients' innovations and brands. We advise our clients on matters related to registration of trademarks, designs, copyrights and patents, unfair competition, IP infringement as well as parallel trading.

We also advise telecommunication and IT companies on a wide range of legal services such as software licensing, data protection and licensing requirements.

TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

We advise clients on the development, financing, and delivery of transport and infrastructure projects across the public and private sectors.

DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Our services under this department include, inter alia, civil & commercial litigation, debt collection and recoveries, Alternative Dispute Resolution (negotiation, mediation and Arbitration), employment & labour disputes, tax disputes as well as intellectual property disputes.

OUR SERVICES INCLUDE:

- Regulatory approvals, permits, and engagement with relevant government authorities.
- Structuring, negotiation, and drafting of PPPs, concession agreements, and project-related contracts.
- Legal advisory on transport infrastructure projects including roads, rail, ports, airports, and logistics facilities.
- Compliance, licensing, and procurement advisory for infrastructure developments.
- Environmental, social impact, and stakeholder engagement matters.

MEET THE TEAM



Mr. Ntazinda has a professional legal experience of over 10 years. He previously worked with Trust Law Chambers for over 4 years. He holds a Bachelor of Law degree (Hons) from the University of Rwanda and a Post-graduate Diploma in Legal Practice from the Institute of Legal Practice and Development, Rwanda.

His practice focuses on Banking and Finance, Corporate and Commercial law, Intellectual Property and Technology.

Pius is an advocate licensed to practice law in Rwanda and a member of East African Law Society.

He is a member of the East Africa Law Society Young Lawyers Forum and the African Bar Association Young Lawyers Forum. He is also Rwanda ambassador of Lex:lead, a group of international lawyers and friends who support economic development in developing nations.

Additionally, Pius is a tech-enthusiast; being a member of Africa Legal Tech Network and a founding member of Rwanda Blockchain Association.

He is a native speaker of Kinyarwanda, has excellent command of English and a working knowledge of French.



MR. PIUS. NTAZINDA NKUNDA

MANAGING PARTNER

Livingstone is a renowned commercial litigator in courts of law in Rwanda. He has successfully represented a range of clients including several banks, insurance companies and other corporate entities in some high value, complex and challenging cases.

He is a practitioner in the area of business law with main interest in Insolvency, Banking, Insurance, Contracts as well as Labour.

He holds a Bachelor of Laws Degree from the University of Rwanda, a Diploma in Legal Practice and a certificate in Corporate and Insolvency both from the Institute of Legal Practice and Development.

Before joining CM Advocates, he worked as a principal litigation attorney at a leading law firm in Rwanda. Prior to that, Livingstone worked with the National Human Rights Commission and National Public Prosecution Authority in Rwanda.

He is a member of Rwanda Bar Association and East African Law Society.

He is a native speaker of Kinyarwanda and fluent in English.

A portrait of Mr. Livingstone Mwesigye, a man with short dark hair and a goatee, wearing a dark blue suit, white shirt, and purple patterned tie. He is standing with his arms crossed, looking slightly to the left of the camera. The background features a pattern of concentric, overlapping circles in shades of grey and brown.

MR. LIVINGSTONE MWESIGYE

PARTNER

Jean Marie Ntakirutinka specialises in general business law with a focus on banking and finance, corporate commercial, property and security, acquisition and sale of shares, mergers & takeovers, labor and employment, telecommunications.

He holds a Bachelor of Law degree (Hons) from the University of Rwanda and a Post-graduate Diploma in Legal Practice from the Institute of Legal Practice and Development, Rwanda.

Prior to joining CM Advocates, Jean Marie worked as an Associate at ENSafrica | Rwanda and later Equity Bank Rwanda Plc as a Senior Legal Officer. He therefore has both law firm and in-house experience; he has gained an exceptional mix of wide-ranging experience and expertise.

Jean Marie is fluent in English, French and Kinyarwanda, and has a working knowledge of Kiswahili.

He is a member of the Rwanda Bar Association as well as the East Africa Law Society.



MR. JEAN MARIE NTAKIRUTINKA

PARTNER

Ms. Joan Mutesi joined the firm in January 2020 as a Junior Associate. She graduated with a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of Nairobi.

While a student, Joan volunteered with the Lawyers without borders organization as a student assistant. She also took part in the Legal Aid Clinic at the Kenya Human Rights Commission and Kituo cha sharia under the University of Nairobi Students' Association for legal aid and research.

Ms. Joan has a keen interest in intellectual property law and commercial law. She is native speaker of Kinyarwanda and has an excellent command of English.



MS. JOAN MUTESI

ASSOCIATE

Mr. Josue Ihimbazwe joined CM Advocates in July 2025, bringing with him a solid background in litigation and legal advisory services. He is an Advocate licensed by the Rwanda Bar Association (RBA) and a member of the East African Law Society (EALS). He holds a Bachelor of Laws (LLB) from the University of Rwanda and a Postgraduate Diploma in Legal Practice (DLP) from the Institute of Legal Practice and Development (ILPD), and is currently doing a Master of Laws (LLM) in Business Law at the University of Rwanda.

Prior to joining CM Advocates, Mr. Josue served as an Associate at one of growing Law Firms in Rwanda, where he acquired substantial experience in litigation, contract drafting, and both oral and written legal advisory across a wide range of legal matters. His practice areas include labor law, banking law, mortgage law, insurance law, contract law, land law, as well as general civil, labor, and commercial litigation.

With a meticulous approach to legal problem solving and a strong grounding in Rwandan and regional legal frameworks, Mr. Josue is committed to delivering effective and client focused legal solutions. At CM Advocates, he is actively engaged in litigation and other dispute resolution processes across various areas of law, including banking, insurance, corporate law, competition and consumer protection law, labor law, land law, family matters, commercial transactions, and related legal fields.

A professional portrait of Mr. Josue Ihimbazwe, a young Black man with short hair and a goatee, wearing a dark blue suit, white shirt, and maroon tie. He is standing with his arms crossed against a background of concentric, curved lines in shades of blue and grey.

IHIMBAZWE JOSUE

ASSOCIATE

Ms. Solange has organizational skills and a professional experience in Administration, finance and human resources. She previously worked as an Administration and Business Manager at White Dove Global Prep for 7 years. She also volunteered at Esther's Aid as an accountant 2years and worked with IT Consulting Group as an Archive officer doing e- filling for companies for 3 years.

She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting from the University of Rwanda and a diploma in Administration from UNIVERSITE LIBRE DE KIGALI.

Solange is a native speaker of Kinyarwanda and fluently speaks

A professional portrait of Ms. Utamuliza Solange Ijumaa. She is a woman with dark, curly hair, wearing a light-colored blazer over a dark top. She is smiling and looking towards the camera. The background features a pattern of concentric, curved lines in shades of brown and grey.

MS UTAMULIZA SOLANGE IJUMAA

ADMIN & FINANCE MANAGER

Ms. Evelyn serves as the Administration and Business Development Officer at the Firm, supporting the firm in operational efficiency and contributing to its strategic growth initiatives.

Throughout her academic and professional journey, Evelyn has developed her skills in strategic planning, leadership, team management, and customer care, which are essential for her coordinating role at the Firm.

Evelyn has previously served as administration officer at Gashora farm plc which equips her for the current position at the Firm. She is fluent in English and Kinyarwanda, enabling her effective communication.



ISIMBI EVELYNE

ADMIN AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT



OUR MISSION

To add value to our customers through a results-oriented and professional team.



OUR VISION

To be distinguished legal solutions provider in Rwanda and in the Eastern Africa Region.

CONTACT US:

Email: law@cmadvocates.rw

Website: www.cmadvocates.rw

Location: Kigali Heights Building, West Wing, Sixth Floor, Kimihurura.

Phone: +(250) 792 527 255

P.O. Box 493, Kigali, Rwanda