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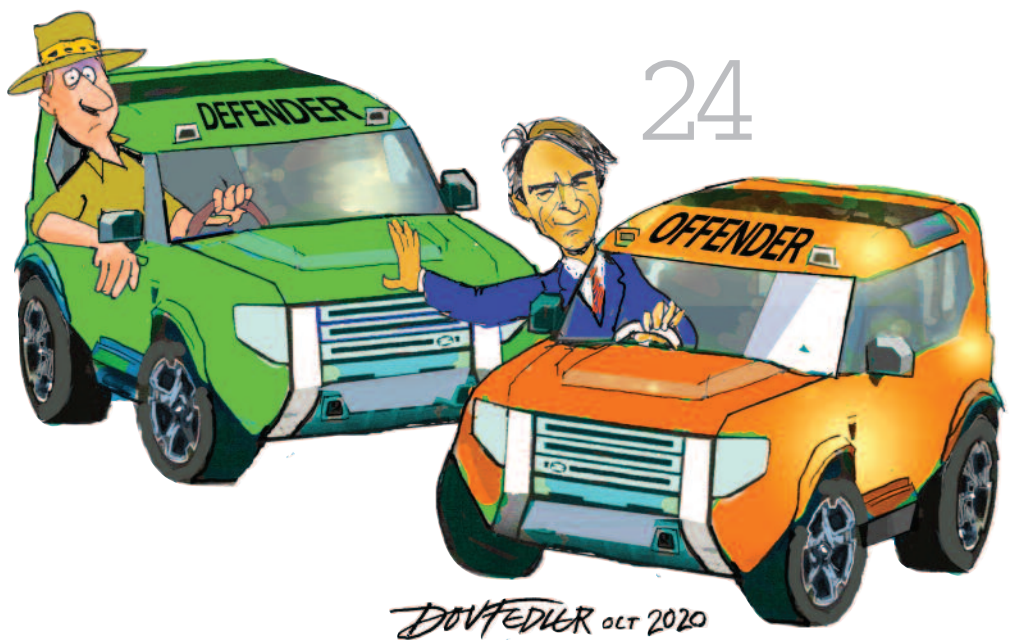
- 25 | The jokey cease-and-desist:
What a fool believes
**The Doobie Brothers v
Bill Murray**

HANS MUHLBERG

ConsumerLaw

- 26 | Electronic signatures,
credit agreements and
the National Credit Act
**Electronic signatures -
valid and binding?**

SUHAIL EBRAHIM -
SHEPSTONE & WYLIE



20



Medical Law

- 28 | Medical certificates - clarity in the
uncertainty
**A need for sensitivity and an investigative
approach**

ROD HARPER AND JESSICA FOX - COWAN HARPER MADIKIZELA

The Law

- 30 | Dissenting judgments - their
contribution
**An essential part of a legal filtering
process**

LYNNE KOEN - MAPONYA

Cover

- 31 | The precious nature of the Pangolin
The Constitutional Court Trust

Deal activity

- 32 | A selection of who did what in
September

DEALMAKERS

Cover: Artwork: Joanne Patterson, 'Pangolin', 1998, mixed media, 169 x 920 x 810 mm. Donated by Mark Read, Everard Read Gallery Johannesburg to the CCAC in 1999. Cover image courtesy of the Constitutional Court Trust, as part of the Constitutional Court Art Collection (CCAC). For more information, visit ccac.concourtrust.org.za or follow @concourt_art on Instagram and Twitter.

Photograph by Gisèle Wulfsohn © Constitutional Court Trust.

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It is important that the public be informed of the thought process involved in the writing of judgments. Dissenting judgments contribute to this and allow for a greater understanding of the case at hand with all its intricacies. They create room for judicial officers to carefully consider their opinions, and are an essential part of a legal filtering process. ♦

Koen is a Director, General
Litigation department, Maponya.



This article was written with the assistance of an article first published by Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg in the Minnesota Law Review 2010: *The Role of Dissenting Opinions*.

Constitutional Court Art Collection/cover

The precious nature of the pangolin

THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT TRUST

The pangolin is revered in Zimbabwe through traditional belief systems. Yet, due to poaching by traffickers involved with illegal international trade, this animal is highly endangered.

The artist, who was born in Zimbabwe, wanted to give this sculpture a totemic nature, indicating the preciousness of this animal. The adult-sized pangolin's scales are made from cow hooves, covering an armature made out of steel rods, wire and expandable foam. It is cradled by woven sticks, which are reminiscent of the tops of anthills whitened by bird's droppings. The clay pots also refer to the tall, often red, anthills dotted around the bush in Southern Africa.

According to the artist, widely-used clay pots in Africa are vessels of life for humans, much as anthills serve the same purpose to animals and insects that depend on them for their survival, including the ant-eating pangolin.

This sculpture, which forms part of the Constitutional Court Art Collection (CCAC), was recently restored and will be exhibited again in the public gallery of the Constitutional Court in 2021.

To enquire about tours of the CCAC, send an email to the curatorial team at ccac@concourtrust.org.za.

Photograph by Ben Law-Viljoen © Constitutional Court Trust ♦



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