

### **FIRM PROFILE**

## Snapshot

M.G. Daly & Partners is a dynamic, full-service Law Firm based in Trinidad and Tobago which caters to the needs of local and international clients across a wide range of practice areas. We are committed to maintaining our long tradition of providing our Clients with the expert services and support they require to preserve and pursue their personal and commercial interests. In discharging our obligations to our Clients and other stakeholders, the Firm is guided by its core principles of efficiency, effectiveness and integrity, which are further developed in our statement of business principles.

# **Our Story**

Our Firm was founded by Martin G. Daly S.C., Elton A. Prescott S.C., Reginald T. A. Armour S.C. and Jo-Anne Julien on December 22<sup>nd</sup> 1986, shortly before the implementation of the "new" Legal Profession Act. That Act came into force on January 1<sup>st</sup> 1987 and brought with it the "fusion" of the traditional roles of solicitor and barrister into a then-novel professional called an "Attorney-at-Law". "M.G. Daly and Partners" was structured as a full-service firm of Attorneys-at-Law, the first of its kind in Trinidad and Tobago.

The Firm's first offices were located at 64-68 Pembroke Street in Port of Spain, from where it rapidly grew in number, size and scope. By February 2<sup>nd</sup> 1989, the Firm occupied offices at 115A Abercromby Street in Port of Spain, across from the historical Harris Square. The Firm now occupies a modern office building at 121 Henry Street in Port of Spain. Our offices are within walking distance of the Courts, Commissions, Agencies and other public bodies before which our Attorneys-at-Law principally appear, many places of social, cultural and historical significance, public transport networks and financial service centres and providers.

Throughout its history, the Firm has had eight diverse partners with varied backgrounds, interests and associations. Among them, past and present, are members of the Inner Bar, independent Senators, academic faculty members, a Justice of Appeal, members of the Law Association and its various Committees, Commissioners in various public bodies and Board representatives of various public and private companies. The Firm has, over the years, also employed many Associate Attorneys-at-Law of considerable experience and competence who have either entered equity or moved on to have very promising careers both within and outside of the legal profession.

## Our People

The Firm's five Partners are highly specialized and experienced in their respective practice areas. We employ several associates, all of whom are well-educated and well-trained to meet the Firm's very high standards.

#### **Our Partners**

#### Jo-Anne Julien

Jo-Anne has been with our Firm from inception in 1986, becoming a Partner in 1996.

Jo-Anne holds a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of the West Indies (1980) and a Legal Education Certificate from the Hugh Wooding Law School (1982). She is admitted to practice law in Trinidad and Tobago, having been called to the bar in 1982.

Jo-Anne heads up the corporate and commercial department at the firm and has specialist experience in complex corporate and commercial work including mergers, acquisitions and take-overs involving public companies, complex real estate structures and developments, banking and finance, securities and cross-border transactions. In addition Jo-Anne is responsible for the firms Probate and Matrimonial services to the firm's clients.

Jo-Anne has acted as lead Counsel and principal negotiator in many high profile and high value transactions including the development of a strategic alliance between two major publicly traded companies, divestments and share distributions of local companies, the preparation of complex commercial documents including due diligence reports in respect to mergers and acquisitions between international financial institutions and local entities, and the international financing of a local energy company.

Jo-Anne routinely advises several public enterprises, public boards and statutory authorities and corporations on a wide array of legal and regulatory matters. She sits on the boards of several corporate entities and is a former executive member of the Council of the Law Association of Trinidad and Tobago, former member of the Trinidad and Tobago Chamber of Industry and Commerce and former member of the Board of Electrical Industries Holdings Limited.

Jo-Anne is a Notary Public appointed by the President of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. She is also a Member of the Disciplinary Committee of the Law Association of Trinidad and Tobago, a Member of the Disciplinary Committee of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Trinidad and Tobago. Jo-Anne is currently the Chairman of Trinidad and Tobago Unit Trust Corporation, and a director on its subsidiary Boards, a Director on the Board of National Canners Limited, a Director on the Board of Bermudez Group Limited, and a Director on the Board of the Trinidad Building and Loan Association. She is a ranked practitioner of General Business Law in Chambers Global.

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# Sashi Indarsingh

Sashi joined our Firm in 2001 and she became a Partner in 2006. Sashi holds a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of the West Indies (1994) and a Legal Education Certificate from the Hugh Wooding Law School (1996). She is admitted to practice law in Trinidad and Tobago.

Sashi provides advisory, risk management and dispute resolution services to the Firm's clients. Sashi is often the first in line to provide urgent "on-the-spot" general advice where required on legal issues arising in a wide range of practice areas, including all areas of banking and finance, highly specialized areas of industrial relations and telecommunications regulation.

Sashi is directly responsible for managing the broad portfolios of several of the Firm's corporate and public service clients. She also has considerable trial experience at all levels of the Court system in Trinidad and Tobago as both an instructing Attorney-at-Law and an Advocate. She has been involved in litigation involving many foreign clients and has developed close working relationships with her colleagues both within and outside of Trinidad and Tobago.

Sashi has successfully argued in favour of a variety of employers before the Industrial Court on numerous industrial relations matters including disputes in respect of terminations, retrenchment, industrial relations offences and injunctions.

Recently Sashi has appeared as Advocate Attorney and successfully argued before both the High Court and Court of Appeal matters in respect of the rights of Creditors and Mortgagees. She also assisted as Instructing Attorney in a complex receivership action in which the firm was successful before the Privy Council.

Sashi has specialist training in mediation and she has participated in several commercial arbitrations, conciliations and mediations. Sashi is a Member of the Trinidad and Tobago Chamber of Industry and Commerce. She is also a former member of the Rules Committee on behalf of the Law Association of Trinidad and Tobago and held this position during the years 2009 to 2021 where she assisted in drafting and formulating the Criminal Proceedings Rules, rules for the Family Court and the Children's Court and a number of amendments to the Civil Proceedings Rules.

Notable matters in which Sashi appeared as Advocate before the High Court and Court of Appeal recently include:

- CV 2017-0502 /CV2019 0566 RBC Royal Bank (Trinidad and Tobago) Limited v Stephen Mohammed and
- Civ Appeal No. P286 of 2015 Jessel Ramsundar and Sharon Ramsundar v RBC Royal Bank (Trinidad & Tobago) Limited

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# • Ariana Krishingee

Ariana joined our Firm as a Partner in 2023.

Ariana has vast experience in corporate and commercial law realms, such as large-scale project financing, mergers and acquisitions, and securities law.

Ariana has a wealth of experience in preparing legal, due diligence reports for mergers and acquisitions, developing proposals to clients for mergers, asset or company divestitures, investments, and related advisory services, preparing bond documentation, and creating documentation to support securitization products.

Ariana is also involved in all areas of Intellectual Property. Some of Ariana's notable work is highlighted in her representation on behalf of the purchaser in acquiring a major hotel in Trinidad and Tobago from liquidators. She also represented a leading insurance company in obtaining an international insurance portfolio.

She holds directorships in Lonsdale Saatchi & Saatchi Advertising Limited, Acreage Investments Limited, and Trinidad and Tobago Cancer Society Limited.

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### Helen Araujo

Helen joined our Firm in 2012 and became a Partner in 2016.

Helen provides conveyancing, probate and real estate advisory services to the Firm's clients. Helen is intricately familiar with real estate law and the law of landlord and tenant and has been relied upon as an expert in civil litigation. She is well-versed in transactional matters and the law, practice, procedure and preparation of legal documents in support of conveyancing and probate matters.

Prior to joining the Firm, Helen gained invaluable experience with the operations, practices and procedures relating to conveyancing and the preparation of legal documents related thereto while performing services as a conveyancing clerk for a longstanding conveyancing practitioner.

Helen has specialist postgraduate training in Marketing, Business Administration, Business Management, Economics and Private Acquisitions. She is a former Senior Ordinary Member of the Council of the Law Association having served during the period 2019 to 2022 and currently serves as a member of the Law Association's Corporate, Commercial and Conveyancing Committee. She is also a businesswoman, an avid reader and a traveller.

Some of Helen's notable work includes advising on and preparing transactional documents for a statutory corporation in respect of a major apartment complex development, advising on multifaceted leasehold building schemes on behalf of major real estate developers in relation to various large-scale property developments. Helen was also an integral member of a team that

conducted reviews on behalf of the Law Association of Trinidad and Tobago of proposed legislation relating to conveyancing, real property and related matters.

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## Sonnel David-Longe

Sonnel has been with our Firm since November 2017, and she became a Partner in 2024.

Sonnel provides critical support for the Firm's dispute resolution services and its International Law and CSME Portfolio. She has appeared before the High Courts and Courts of Appeal in Trinidad and Tobago and before the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. Sonnel often provides legal advice and opinions to our clients on a wide range of legal issues arising in many practice areas. Prior to joining our Firm, Sonnel was attached to another firm where she gained considerable trial experience in several key practice areas.

Sonnel, a Chevening Scholar, holds a Master's degree in international law which has well-prepared her to treat with transnational disputes and matters relating to the CARICOM Single Market and Economy. She is also certified by the Mediation Board of Trinidad and Tobago as a Mediator for Civil Non-Family Matters.

Sonnel has also served as a consultant for the Office of the Prime Minister in Guyana and UNICEF and currently serves as a course director, lecturer and tutor in Public International Law, Administrative Law, Contract Law, Gender and Law, Family Law and Caribbean Business Law at the University of the West Indies. Sonnel maintains a strong interest in the creative and performance arts and is experienced in Taekwondo.

Notable matters in which Sonnel recently appeared include:

2019 - **Ronald Walcott v. Dane Wilson** CV2018-00544- Together with Martin G. Daly S.C., successfully negotiated the settlement of a longstanding defamation action brought by the Chief Executive Officer of a major essential service against a prominent blogger.

2022- <u>Energizer Supermarket Limited v. Holiday Snacks Limited</u> [2022] UKPC 16- Together with Christopher Sieuchand, successfully defended an appeal brought by a company alleging that an agreement made between the earlier owners of nearby lands was unenforceable.

2022 – <u>Edward John v Ian Trumpet</u> CV 2019- 04265 - Together with Christopher Sieuchand, successfully brought a claim for possession on behalf of one squatter by which he was able to evict a subsequent squatter to facilitate his application for a Certificate of Comfort.

2023 – *Gary Lewis v. The Chaguaramas Development Authority & Ors.* 2020-01414 – Together with Kerwyn Garcia S.C., successfully defended against a claim for adverse possession of state lands, with the court upholding their submission of 'no case to answer'.

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Our Associates

Anderson D. Modeste

Anderson has been with our Firm since 2020.

Anderson provides critical support for the Firm's dispute resolution services. His principal practice area at the Firm is in Industrial Relations, Labour and Employment Law. Anderson regularly represents employers before the Industrial Court in Trinidad and Tobago and is able to draw on his background in Psychology to assist in difficult negotiations.

Prior to joining our Firm, Anderson honed his skills in advocacy in private practice at a reputable Chambers in Port of Spain, where he gained considerable litigation experience. Anderson also practiced as a Professional Civil Engineer for several years and is able to effectively leverage his training in that discipline in order to advise our clients on construction disputes.

Anderson, a recipient of two scholarships during his course of study at Drury University, is a former prize-winning Mooter and has a keen interest in serving his community. Anderson is a former volunteer with Habitat for Humanity and routinely renders considerable pro bono service when reasonably required.

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Sheena Ragoobar-Ferreira

Sheena has been with the Firm since 2023.

Sheena provides critical support for the Firm's dispute resolution services. Her principal practice areas at the Firm is in Industrial Relations, Labour and Employment Law as well as Banking and Civil Litigation. She has appeared before the Industrial Court, High Courts and Courts of Appeal in Trinidad and Tobago and routinely provides support to our litigation teams as an instructing attorney.

Prior to joining our Firm, Sheena managed the Industrial Relations and Compensation portfolio for an Authority where she gained considerable experience in industrial relations. Sheena also practiced as a Group In-House Attorney for several years wherein she gained considerable experience in Employment and Insurance Law as well as Bond matters.

She regularly involves herself in volunteering initiatives, is a passionate dissectologist and an avid traveller.

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#### Andelle Pierre

Andelle joined our Firm in 2022.

Andelle provides critical support for the Firm's conveyancing, commercial and real estate advisory services portfolios. Andelle is principally engaged in providing conveyancing services to the Firm's clients and providing legal advice and opinions on a wide range of transactional and other issues.

Prior to joining our Firm, Andelle worked with two well-known legal services firms in the Caribbean. Andelle has actively participated in a number of high-profile commercial matters including capital markets transactions, debt and equity financing and mergers and acquisitions across the banking and energy sectors. Andelle has managed and supported high-value residential and commercial transactions and has advised several corporate clients on securities law, practice and procedure both locally and internationally.

Andelle is a fitness enthusiast and practiced musician. Along with her active support of the Girl Guides Association of Trinidad and Tobago, Andelle volunteers her time and skills in support of a wide range of philanthropic projects.

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#### Tristan Alexander

Tristan joined our Firm in 2023

Tristan provides critical support for the Firm's dispute resolution services. His principal practice area at the Firm is in Civil litigation. Tristan is our Junior Civil Advocate and provides legal advice and opinions to our clients on a wide range of legal issues arising in many practice areas. Tristan is passionate about personal injuries/negligence matters, contract law, industrial and employment law, intellectual property law, sports law, as well as banking and financial litigation.

Prior to joining our Firm, Tristan developed his skills in advocacy in private practice at two reputable Chambers in Port of Spain and was mentored by Senior Counsel.

Tristan is passionate about youth and community development while assisting persons in need. Tristan sits on a panel of a Non-Governmental Organization that advocates for the rights of women and girls in Trinidad and Tobago. Tristan often partakes in volunteer and philanthropic projects. Tristan enjoys cultural and creative arts. He is a businessman, an avid traveller and a football enthusiast.

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#### **Our Services**

Our Firm provides a full suite of legal services and support systems to our public and private sector Clients, both local and international, across a wide range of practice areas.

- 1. Advisory and Risk Management: Our Firm provides legal advice to our clients in order to assist them in understanding their rights, obligations and, ultimately, their exposure to risk across a broad spectrum of legal issues. We are routinely engaged to provide advice in relation to corporate, commercial, legislative, regulatory and compliance matters. We have acted on behalf of private international clients, both independently and together with international law firms, in respect of mergers, acquisitions and divestments.
- 2. Traditional Dispute Resolution: We provide advice to and representation for persons preparing for or involved in litigation for the purpose of resolving legal disputes. Our Attorneys-at-Law have trial experience at all levels of the Trinidad and Tobago Court System, including the Magistrates Court, the Caribbean Court of Justice and the Privy Council, and before many specialized Courts, Tribunals, Boards and other supervisory bodies including (1) the Industrial Court and the Registration, Recognition and Certification Board, (2) the Tax Appeal Board and (3) the Environmental Commission.
- **3. Alternative Dispute Resolution:** Our Attorneys-at-Law are experienced negotiators. Several of them are trained to conduct and represent parties interested in mediations, conciliations and arbitrations, both locally and abroad, and our Firm is fully equipped to host and provide support services in relation to these events.
- **4. International Law and the CSME:** Our Firm provides legal advice and representation to our Clients before international bodies in relation to their international rights and obligations and cross-border transactional issues. We leverage our physical proximity to various international bodies, including the Caribbean Court of Justice in its Original Jurisdiction, to provide critical support services to legal practitioners and their clients.
- 5. Consultancy and Strategic Planning Services: We provide consultancy services to private persons and businesses who are looking to explore opportunities and need support in navigating the complex legal and statutory frameworks within which they propose to venture. Our services include advising and supporting the establishment of businesses, procurement of licences, legislative reviews and regulatory enquiries.
- **6. Conveyancing**: Our conveyancing department provides transactional services and advice to financial institutions, commercial enterprises, developers, property owners and tenants in relation to purchases, sales, leases and rentals of real property and the financial arrangements supporting them. Our Attorneys-at-Law also provide training to commercial clients on legal aspects of mortgages, agreements and other real estate matters.
- 7. Family Matters: Our Attorneys routinely advise clients on local laws relating to separation agreements, divorce, division of property, spousal and child maintenance, child custody, co-habitational relationships and consequent succession rights. We represent parties in contested

and uncontested family disputes and we encourage a collaborative and mediated approach to these matters.

- **8. Estate Planning and Administration:** Our Attorneys advise corporate, trust and private clients on legal matters arising in relation to the law, practice and procedure of estate planning and administration, including the preparation of wills and trust documents and navigating the oftencomplex systems governing this area. The Firm has conducted workshops for corporate clients relating to the structuring of estates, trust arrangements and other matters.
- **9. Notarial and Swearing Services:** One of our Attorneys-at-Law is a Notary Public and is fully equipped to authenticate and notarize documents for use abroad. Our Firm also maintains direct access to Commissioners of Affidavits in order to facilitate efficiency in preparing legal documents and having them duly authenticated.
- 10. Legal Drafting and Corporate Secretarial Services: We are able to advise upon and prepare complex commercial documents, agreements and other legal documents, assist our clients in the completion of legal forms and provide corporate secretarial services to businesses and corporate entities.
- 11. Intellectual Property: We act as trademark agents for several clients and we have developed a network of Attorneys-at-Law with whom we work to provide trademark protection across borders. We act for copyright collection agencies and media service providers in matters relating to copyright infringement and protection. We also provide advice to clients on approaches and frameworks for the management of copyright.
- **12. Advocacy Services:** We assist our Client in preparing advocacy documents, presentations and, on occasion, making submissions on their behalf in support of tenders, requests for proposals, financial assistance and/or commercial pitches.
- 13. Legal Skills Training: Our Attorneys have experience as trainers in several areas, including training in advocacy, freedom of information law and other legal topics. We provide these competence-improving and capacity-building services to our clients and to external agencies upon request.
- **14. Ancillary Legal Support Services:** Our Firm's facilities and resources are available to provide support to external legal service providers. These facilities and resources include (1) legal research support, (2) secretarial and note-taking services, (3) drop-box services, (4) physical- and remote-conferencing facilities, (5) document processing services and (6) process serving.

Our principal practice areas include: contract law, company law, finance and business law, the law of banking and securities, industrial relations and employment Law, tort law, administrative and public law, constitutional law and human rights, family law, civil practice and procedure, conveyancing, the law of landlord and tenant and real property, probate practice and procedure, freedom of information law, competition law, sector regulation and compliance, the law of professional associations and professional discipline, aviation law, public international law and the law of the CSME.

### **Other Matters**

### The Firm:

- operates independently of Legal Networks;
- is an equal opportunity employer;
- communicates in English but there is an ability to correspond in Spanish;
- is able to communicate electronically;
- has general knowledge and experience of the English-speaking Caribbean, the Netherlands Antilles, Guyana and Venezuela and we have correspondent relationships with law firms in many of those areas as well as in London and North America;
- accepts payments traditionally and electronically in both TTD and USD;
- is willing, in certain circumstances to negotiate and act on a retainer basis;
- holds comprehensive indemnity insurance against professional liability; and
- is fully compliant with AML and CFT requirements.

# **Our Contact Information**

• Addresses: **Head Office**:

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The above contact numbers and e-mail addresses are the same for all locations.