

## All the 2011 Webber Wentzel legal journo winners

The <u>Webber Wentzel Legal Journalist of the Year Award</u> 2011 competition has announced the winners of the print, broadcast television and radio categories, as Carolyn Raphaely, <u>Megan Small</u> and <u>Stephen Grootes</u> respectively. The guest speaker at the ceremony was <u>Ferial Haffajee</u>, editor of the *City Press* newspaper.

 Legal Journalist
 Pamela Stein, partner at Webber Wentzel, congratulated all the winners for their hard work

 of the Year Award 2011
 and commitment. "This award honours their dedication and proven ability to report and

 package in-depth stories comprising a huge variety of legal issues that are an essential part

of an unfolding democracy, in a manner that South African citizens can understand."

Adv John Campbell, Prof Franz Krüger, director at Wits Radio Academy and Joe Thloloe, the current press ombudsman, judged the 2011 entries.

## **Print category**

Carolyn Raphaely from the Wits Justice Project won R50 000 in the print category, which included online. The judges found that "Carolyn had been outstanding in reporting about some of the deep problems facing the justice system in South Africa. Four of her entries, which were published in three different newspapers, demonstrated her grasp and thorough understanding of legal journalism."

In the same category, Ann Crotty from Business Report was commended for her writing on the new Companies Act.

Hans Muhlberg from *Noseweek* also received a certificate of commendation for his excellent writing, particularly for his British American Tobacco South Africa (BATSA) article. The article focused on a sophisticated strategy to side step the prohibition on tobacco advertising and judges commended Muhlberg for clarity of analysis of that strategy that linked it deftly with international marketing trends.

## **Broadcast television category**

Small from eTV's 3rd Degree won R50 000 in the broadcast television category for her story on the Hawks, which was very well contextualised in terms of history and political conflict. The history of the Hawks, from its launch and promising sentiments expressed by president Mbeki, to its subsequent successes and the increasing hostility of government as it moved against people perceived to be aligned to dominant factions in government, were all well covered.

Cheryl Uys Allie from Carte Blanche was commended for her entry in the same category, which dealt with an underreported aspect of the criminal justice system: the fate of SA drug mules that were caught and jailed in Brazil.

## Broadcast radio category

In the broadcast radio category, Grootes (@stephengrootes) from Eyewitness News won R50 000 for his reports on the Equality Court case brought by Afriforum against Julius Malema of the ANCYL, which had to decide whether the song "Dubul' iBhunu" was hate speech or not.

Mandy Wiener (<u>@mandywiener</u>), also from Eyewitness News, was commended for an entry regarding a series of reports on the Brett Kebble murder trial, focusing particularly on the application for discharge of the accused Glenn Agliotti.

For more, go to www.webberwentzel.com/wwb/content/en/legal-journalist-of-the-year.

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