



PRESS RELEASE

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LAW SOCIETY PAYS TRIBUTE TO THE LATE FORMER CHIEF JUSTICE ARTHUR CHASKALSON; ONE OF THE GREAT LAWYERS OF OUR TIME

The Law Society of South Africa (LSSA) is deeply saddened by the death of former Chief Justice Arthur Chaskalson today.

As a judge and President of the Constitutional Court, Justice Chaskalson will be remembered for his great contribution to our constitutional jurisprudence after 1994. However, his immense value to our democracy spans across the many years and the work he did, both as a junior and senior advocate, in supporting and defending those who struggled for justice and liberation. 'Justice Chaskalson was one of the courageous few who spoke out bravely, and devoted his time and energy to challenging apartheid legislation, at a time when others hesitated to do so,' say LSSA Co-Chairpersons Krish Govender and Jan Stemmett.

They add: As recently as a few weeks ago, Justice Chaskalson stressed the importance of the independence of the judiciary and of the legal profession for our constitutional democracy. As legal practitioners we must bear this in mind so that we continue to move forward on the path that ensures a stable and future democracy.

'On behalf of the attorneys' profession, we pay tribute to Arthur Chaskalson, and lower our flag at the passing of one of the great lawyers of our time. We extend the condolences of the attorneys' profession to his wife and family,' say Mr Govender and Mr Stemmett.

ISSUED ON BEHALF OF THE CO-CHAIRPERSONS OF THE LAW SOCIETY OF SOUTH AFRICA, KRISH GOVENDER AND JAN STEMMETT

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Editor's note:

The Law Society of South Africa brings together its six constituent members – the Cape Law Society, the KwaZulu-Natal Law Society, the Law Society of the Free State, the Law Society of the Northern Provinces, the Black Lawyers Association and the National Association of Democratic Lawyers – in representing South Africa's 21 200 attorneys and 5 000 candidate attorneys.