



5 June 2018

E-mail: [BonGumede@justice.gov.za](mailto:BonGumede@justice.gov.za)

Attention: Ms Charity Nzuzo

The Chairperson  
National Forum on the Legal Profession  
SA Law Commission  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Spooral Park Building  
CENTURION

Dear Madam

**RULES REQUIRED BY SECTIONS 95(1), 95(3) AND 109(2) OF THE LEGAL PRACTICE ACT**

The Law Society of South Africa (LSSA) considered draft rules 2, 3, 4 and 5 contained in Notice 249 of 2018, which appeared in Government Gazette 41632 and wish to comment as follows:

The LSSA does not support the increase of the annual fees from R2 500 to R3 500 for practising legal practitioners. Many legal practitioners will not be able to afford these fees, particularly taking into consideration that in future they will have to pay their own professional indemnity cover and possibly other subscriptions and fees. One of the functions of the Legal Practice Council is to promote access to the legal profession. The proposed annual fees will likely prohibit entry and also cause hardship for legal practitioners already in the system. The original R2 500 fee will already present a significant burden for legal practitioners.

The National Forum offered no motivation for its proposal to significantly increase the annual fee with an amount of R1 000 or how the amount of R3 500 was calculated.

The LSSA is of the view that the fees should remain at R2 500 as per the initial notice.

/2

The Law Society of South Africa brings together the Black Lawyers Association, the Cape Law Society, the KwaZulu-Natal Law Society, the Law Society of the Free State, the Law Society of the Northern Provinces and the National Association of Democratic Lawyers in representing the attorneys' profession in South Africa.

We apologise for the late response to your invitation for comment and trust that you will consider our submission.

Yours faithfully



**Lizette Burger**  
**Professional Affairs Manager**

Tel: +27 (0)12 366 8800

Fax: +27 (0) 86 674 6533

E-mail: [lizette@lssa.org.za](mailto:lizette@lssa.org.za)