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### APPLY TO BE ON THE LSSA ARBITRATORS / MEDIATORS PANEL

The LSSA regularly updates its panel of legal practitioner arbitrators, mediators and experts which is used as its primary source when the LSSA is called on to appoint or nominate arbitrators/experts/mediators in contractual and other disputes.

Applicants must be practising attorneys or advocates, and must possess sufficient relevant experience in a specialist field of practice. The LSSA will take into account its briefing pattern policy when recommending appointments. The LSSA will also confirm good standing of applicants with the Legal Practice Council. If you would like to apply, [click here](#) for the online application form and email your CV to Kris Devan at [kris@lssa.org.za](mailto:kris@lssa.org.za) once the application has been completed.

[Click here to apply online.](#)

### UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE FUND'S CORONAVIRUS TEMPORARY EMPLOYER/EMPLOYEES RELIEF SCHEME (TERS)

The LSSA has published a concise, easy-to-understand guide on the UIF TERS benefit. The Scheme was introduced through Directives published in Government Gazette 43161 of 26 March 2020, which have since been amended a few times. The guide explains the Covid-19 TERS Directives, and outlines who can apply for the benefit, as well as the application process. To note is that workers who are not registered for UIF, may still benefit from the Scheme. Indications are that the relief benefit will only be paid until the end of June, but we will inform practitioners if circumstances change. The fund will continue to accept and process Covid-19 TERS claims for April, May and June as per the directive. The scheme will however only process and pay for claims for the past three months. The guide is available on [the LSSA website](#).

[Click here to view the guideline.](#)

### THE PROTECTION OF PERSONAL INFORMATION ACT, 2013 (POPI ACT)

The POPI Act, which seeks to balance the right to privacy against other rights, such as access to information, has been put into operation incrementally. Some sections, including those dealing with the establishment of the Information Regulator, came into operation in 2014. Sections 2 to 38; sections 55 to 109; section 111; and section 114 (1), (2) and (3) came into operation on 1 July 2020. These sections, amongst other, deal with the conditions for the lawful processing of personal information, the Codes of Conduct issued by the Information Regulator and the regulation of direct marketing by means of unsolicited electronic communication. As per s 114(1), by 1 July 2021 all private and public bodies must comply with the Act. Practitioners are urged to familiarise themselves with the provisions of the Act so that they are ready to deal with peoples' data. A POPI Guidelines for South African law firms is available on the LSSA website.

[Click here to read the Guidelines.](#)

### CONVEYANCING FEES GUIDELINES

The latest Conveyancing Fees Guidelines in respect of conventional deeds and sectional titles is available on the [LSSA website](#). These include guidelines for the interprovincial apportionment of fees, wasted costs and transactions in terms of the Alienation of Land Act. The guidelines are applicable to instructions received on or after 1 July 2020.

[Click here to download the guidelines.](#)

### LITIGATION: UPDATE ON MABUNDA INC & OTHERS V RAF

As previously reported, the LSSA is an amicus in the matter of *Mabunda Inc & 42 Others v RAF*. Two other applications (*FourteFismer Inc & 2 Others v RAF & Others and Diale Mogashoa Inc v RAF*) for the review and setting aside of the RAF's instructions to its panel attorneys to hand over their files, along with the cancellation of the tender and the RAF's decision to dispense with the services of the panel were also brought in the Gauteng High Court (Pretoria). All three matters were heard together, and judgment was delivered on 1 June 2020 in favour of the applicants. Judge Wendy Hughes ruled that the status quo should be retained for at least six months as far as the existing panel is concerned. This will enable the RAF to reconsider its position and retain the social responsibility net in place protecting the public, Judge Hughes said. The LSSA *inter alia* argued that the decision by the RAF is not in the public interest or in the interest of the administration of justice.

Various Rule 42 variation applications were subsequently made and the order now contains additional paragraphs setting aside the RAF's demand to its panel attorneys to hand over their files, as well as the RAF's decision to cancel the tender.

The RAF's application for leave to appeal against the judgment and order was dismissed by the Gauteng High Court on 19 June 2020.

Section 18(3) applications for the execution of the (varied) order of Judge Hughes were filed in all three matters. The LSSA is asking that the operation and execution of the order shall not be suspended by any application for leave to appeal. The LSSA believes that, whatever the merits of the dispute between the RAF and its panel attorneys, the attorneys' profession, the courts, the administration of justice and the rights of road accident victims will be severely affected by the suspension of the court order. This is already seen in some courts, where RAF matters cannot proceed.

[Click here to view the court papers.](#)

### LITIGATION: CAPE BAR COUNCIL V THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES AND OTHERS

As previously reported, the LSSA was the 4th amicus in the matter of the *Cape Bar Council v the Minister of Justice and Correctional Services and Others*, where the Cape Bar Council challenged the election process for members of the Western Cape Provincial Legal Practice Council, as prescribed in the Legal Practice Act Rules and Regulations. The LSSA supported the position of the Legal Practice Council and the Minister of Justice. Judgment was delivered on 10 June 2020. The opposition was successful and the application by the Cape Bar Council was dismissed.

We would like to thank our legal team, Advocate Zaytoen Cornelissen and Ms Sonja Labuschagne who is an attorney and director at Barnard Labuschagne Inc t/a Etienne Barnard Attorneys.

[Click here to view judgment.](#)

### REGISTRATION DATE FOR 2020 SECOND SESSION EXAMS

Registration for the second session of the 2020 professional examinations opens on 14 July 2020 and closes on 7 August 2020. The link to use to register for the exams will be communicated in due course. Please keep an eye out on our social media pages.

[Click here to read the LPC notice](#)

### ELECTIONS: LEGAL PRACTITIONERS' FIDELITY FUND BOARD

The Legal Practice Council (LPC) has informed practising legal practitioners of the impending elections for the Board of Control of the Legal Practitioners' Fidelity Fund (LPFF) in line with the Legal Practice Act 28 of 2014 (the LPA).

Section 62 of the LPA stipulates that the Board consists of five legal practitioners. Rule 46 of the Rules promulgated in terms of the LPA sets out the procedure for election. The LPC is in the process of submitting amendments to Rule 46 to enable voting to take place through an online portal and via e-mail in line with current Covid-19 regulations.

The LPC has encouraged all practising legal practitioners to participate and will circulate notices to practitioners when the nomination process opens.

[Click here to read the LPC notice.](#)

### ROAD ACCIDENT FUND REGULATIONS

Road Accident Fund Act: The medical tariff provided for in subsection 17(4B)(b) has been increased by 5% as from 1 April 2020. View the notice on the tariff adjustment in Government Gazette 43495 dated 3 July 2020 [on the LSSA website](#).

### CYBERSECURITY GUIDELINES FOR LAW FIRMS DURING THE COVID-19 CRISIS

Due to the increase in the number of cyberattacks (like ransomware) on law firms globally during the pandemic, the International Bar Association (IBA) has published cybersecurity guidelines which serve to equip and empower law firms and lawyers to protect themselves from such online virus threats, attacks and data breaches.

[Click here to read the guideline.](#)

[Click here to download the LSSA guideline on information security published in 2018.](#)

### SURVEY FOR YOUNG LAWYERS

The Legal Policy and Research Unit, on behalf of the IBA Young Lawyers Committee, is conducting a global survey to gather data about the collective interests, priorities and concerns of young lawyers (those aged 40 and under) and to use this data, and any trends that may appear, to generate dialogue between young lawyers and the current leaders of the legal profession, and encourage positive changes where necessary. The IBA hopes to produce a publication at the conclusion of the survey, depending on the trends that may appear.

[Click here to do the survey.](#)

### VACANCY: NATIONAL DIRECTOR OF LAWYERS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Lawyers for Human Rights is seeking to appoint a National Director to lead the organisation. The position is based in Pretoria or Johannesburg. Salary and benefits are competitive with NGO standards. Candidates for the position should be effective managers and strategic thinkers. The core of the director's work is managerial. View the job responsibilities and requirements and also [how to apply for the vacancy on the LSSA website](#).

[Click here to view the vacancy advert.](#)

### FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

We endeavour to keep you abreast at all times via our social media platforms. Please follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Twitter](#) for the latest information.

## EDUCATIONAL TRAINING

*LEAD has been accredited as a legal education training provider by the Legal Practice Council for 2020.*

### POPI WEBINAR

20-21 JULY 2020 | 10:30 - 12:30

This course covers the eight conditions for the lawful processing of personal information, the duties and responsibilities of information officers and, especially the responsible party, as well as the relationship between the Protection of Personal Information Act (POPI ACT) and other important statutes. The course also deals with the expected impact of the Information Regulator and the enforcement aspects of the POPI Act on all and sundry.

Since it is an online course, participants are required to read the entire POPI Act before attending the course. As the Act is divided into twelve chapters, having a total of 115 sections unevenly distributed per chapter and one schedule, the LEAD course concentrates on themes within the POPI Act and how to gear up for the commencement of the Act since 1 July 2020. Registration closes 16 July 2020.

[Click here to register for the webinar.](#)

### COMMERCIAL PROPERTY RENTAL & EVICTION WEBINAR

28 JULY 2020 | 10:00 - 13:00

Tackle the practicalities of Rentals and Evictions in Commercial, Retail and Industrial Properties. This webinar covers theory, as well as the practical aspects of commercial rentals in relation to the lease agreement. The purpose of the Consumer Protection Act 68 of 2002 (CPA) is to protect the consumer (or the tenant) against any unfair business practices, of the supplier (or the landlord). Section 14 of the CPA bears the most relevance to lease agreements, the impact of this on lease agreements will be discussed. Solutions with regard to rental disputes and evictions will be discussed, taking into consideration alternative dispute resolution. The webinar will focus on all the legal aspects of rental property in general, with emphasis on evictions, considering the impact of the global pandemic on this part of the rental industry. Registration closes 24 July.

[Click here to register.](#)

### WEBINARS ON DEMAND

The IBA is hosting free webinars covering multiple practice areas and highly topical content. Legal practitioners are able to register for any forthcoming webinar or view any recorded webinars for free. The IBA webinar series provide updates on international developments in areas of practice from tax to energy to antitrust from leading global practitioners. They also help law firms navigate the issues facing them in the current Covid-19 crisis.

[Click here to register for upcoming webinars or to view previous ones.](#)

  
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