

COMMITTED TO BUILDING A BETTER LEGAL PROFESSION FOR ALL

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LPC COUNCIL ELECTIONS

The Law Society of South Africa would like to remind and encourage legal practitioners to participate in the Legal Practice Council elections.

In terms of section 7(1) of the Legal Practice Act (LPA) ten (10) positions are available for attorneys and six (6) positions are available for advocates. Every practitioner received a unique link to cast their ballot. Voting opened on 11 August and will close at 16h00 on Monday 13 September 2021.

The results are anticipated to be announced by the LPC on 17 September 2021.

[Please click here for the list of nominated attorneys](#)

[Please click here for the list of nominated advocates](#)

[Visit the LPC website for more information.](#)

LSSA SHOCKED AND SADDENED AT THE DEATH OF FORMER COUNCIL MEMBER, LUTENDO SIGOGO

The Law Society of South Africa (LSSA) is shocked and saddened to learn about the untimely death of an esteemed member of the legal profession, Limpopo attorney and former LSSA Council member, Lutendo Sigogo. He died from COVID.

At the time of his death, Mr Sigogo was a Director of Mathobo Rambau and Sigogo Incorporated. Mr Sigogo served as President of the Black Lawyers Association (BLA) for two terms. He is also a former President of the then Law Society of the Northern Provinces. In a press release, LSSA President Jan van Rensburg said: 'The death of Mr Sigogo is a huge loss to the legal fraternity. We honour his legacy and mourn his loss alongside his family, friends, and the legal profession.'

Mr van Rensburg added: 'Mr Sigogo was a member of the LSSA Council for many years and was at the forefront of the LSSA's transformation and the Transitional Committee that moved the LSSA and the attorneys' profession into the Legal Practice Act dispensation. The legal profession has lost a person of great wisdom and foresight, and his contributions to the profession were immense. He will be dearly missed.'

[Click here to read LSSA press release](#)

POSTPONEMENT OF COMPETENCY-BASED EXAMINATIONS

Please note that the competency-based examinations scheduled for 17 and 18 August 2021 have been postponed to 19 and 20 October due to the current Disaster Management Act regulations which only allows for indoor gatherings of up to 50 people.

The Legal Practice Council has informed candidates that it will not reopen the registration for these.

The dates for the conveyancing, notarial practice, and advocates' admission examinations remain unchanged (1, 2 and 8 September 2021).

[Click here to read LPC notice](#)

LPDF AUDIT FEE GRANT FOR PRACTITIONERS

The Legal Practitioners Development Fund has made funds available to assist legal practitioners who have been unable to obtain a 2021 Fidelity Fund Certificate due to an inability to pay for the annual audit.

[Click here to download the application form.](#)

REMINDER: FREE WELLNESS PROGRAMME FOR ATTORNEYS

We would like to remind practitioners that the LSSA has collaborated with PPS and the Reality Wellness Group to offer free telephonic counselling and support. The professional telephonic counselling service is available 24/7/365.

[Click here for more information on this initiative.](#)

WILLS WEEK: 13 - 17 SEPTEMBER 2021

Attorneys who missed the deadline and would like to still register to participate in this year's Wills Week can do so by emailing nomfundom@LSSA.org.za.

National Wills Week is now an established highlight among the profession's social outreach and access to justice initiatives. This is thanks to the thousands of attorneys who participate by giving generously of their time and skills. Wills Week has also attracted increasing coverage in the media as well as support from major stakeholders.

The aim of the Wills Week campaign is twofold:

- to position attorneys as the premier providers of wills and estates services to the public, and to improve the image of the profession generally; and
- to encourage members of the public who would not normally make use of the services of an attorney, or who may hesitate to approach an attorney, to consult an attorney to have a basic will drafted.

[Click here to read more on the Wills Week initiative.](#)

RULE 41A OF UNIFORM RULES

Practitioners should note that, with effect from 1 September 2021, the Limpopo Division will decline to hear matters where Rule 41A (dealing with mediation) has not been complied with.

[Click here to view the directive by the Judge President.](#)

RISK ALERT BULLETIN

The August issue of the Bulletin features a risk management column titled: 'Written records of instructions: Meeting the regulatory requirements'. The column states that a letter of engagement is one example of the various types of documents used to record the terms of the engagement between the legal practice and its clients. The author also states that the importance of a legal practice having a written record of the terms of the mandate undertaken by it has long been emphasised as an essential risk management tool and outlines what a letter of engagement should cover.

[Download the August 2021 issue of the Risk Alert Bulletin here.](#)

LSSA GUIDANCE MATRIX ON LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE TO FICA

The Financial Intelligence Centre Act, as amended, requires an accountable institution (including a practicing attorney) to develop, document, maintain and implement a Risk Management and Compliance Programme which must enable the accountable institution to identify, assess, monitor, mitigate, and manage, the risk of the rendering of services may involve or facilitate money laundering activities or the financing of terrorist and related activities. The LSSA has published a guidance matrix on the level of compliance to FICA.

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

CYBERCRIME: BOARD LEVEL STRATEGIES FOR EFFECTIVE CYBER RISK MANAGEMENT

Storm Guidance has published a guide for South African legal practices on effective cybersecurity strategies.

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

DONT FORGET TO FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Please note that most of the information shared in this newsletter has already been shared, as it happened, on our social media platforms. Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Twitter](#) to get the latest information. We endeavour to keep you abreast at all times via our social media platforms.

KEEP UPDATED WITH EDUCATIONAL TRAINING

LEAD has been accredited as a legal education training provider by the Legal Practice Council for 2021.

DIVORCE MEDIATION | 23 AUGUST - 3 SEPTEMBER 2021

Divorce mediation requires practitioners who are personable, articulate and who have good listening skills. For effective mediation, it is also advantageous if the practitioner has practical experience in working with divorcing couples. Whether you wish to practice as a mediator or be in a position to advise your clients or represent them at mediations, you will benefit greatly from attending the course.

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

LABOUR LAW | 24 AUGUST 2021

This course aims to provide an overview of the laws applicable to fair dismissals and the practical application of these principles, to satisfy the requirements of procedural and substantive fairness, preceding the dismissal of an employee for misconduct or incapacity

[Click here to register.](#)

LEGAL COSTS | 26 & 27 AUGUST 2021

This workshop will provide you with the necessary skills in drawing and opposing Bills of Costs together with the relevant ethical background and rules and provide a better understanding between the difference between civil litigious and non-litigious matters and the consequences of this difference.

[Click here to register.](#)

FICA | 31 AUGUST 2021

This webinar will practically guide you in the requirements of the Financial Intelligence Centre Act 38 of 2001 (FICA) and the compliance thereof.

[Click here to register.](#)

GENDER LAW | 6 - 9 SEPTEMBER 2021

The LSSA is offering this accredited short learning course to legal practitioners who want to specialise in gender law within their practice. The short course will include the completion of Portfolio of Evidence (POE) to issue accredited certificate. The course is a five-day online training to be conducted via Microsoft Teams.

[Click here to register.](#)

DE REBUS

www.derebus.org.za

Did you miss the August issue of *De Rebus*? You can read it at www.derebus.org.za

Can you afford not to have this valuable information at your fingertips? If you would like to receive a free digital copy, [click here to opt in.](#)



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