



VERENIGING VAN ADVOKATE

SOCIETY OF ADVOCATES

MOKHGATLO WA BAEMEDI

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NEWSLETTER 03 2018

On 9 September 2018 the Bar Counsel had is meeting and wish to report back on matters discussed –

1. ID cards – the process is still on-going and adv Sean Kelly reported that corrections to the id cards are nearly completed. Those members who does not have id cards and wish to obtain one, please contact Sean in person to confirm details.
2. Business cards – the same process as indicated in para 1 above should be followed. 100 Cards will be printed per member who has sent information to adv Sean Kelly. We should have it is due course.
3. Constitution – a revised constitution is in process. The Vice-chairman adv Koot Myburgh is the project leader in this regard with his experience in the field of writing constitutions. Anyone with proposals please contact adv Koot Myburgh. We will circulate the amended constitution in due course for input. Feel free to comment and to make any suggestions. Some rules will be annexed to the Constitution for future reference.
4. Membership – it has come to our attention that some members do not adhere to the requirements in paying fees for being members of the Society. The secretary has addressed some issues with specific members and we have decided to finalise this matter on a personal and confidential note with each member. Some member's membership will be terminated in terms of the Constitution and after having been requested to make payments of arrear amounts, which in some cases is extensive.
5. Condolences with adv Wentzel Venter – We have expressed our condolences with adv Wentzel Venter with the passing of his wife who suffered from cancer for some

time. We have addressed a personal letter to him and his family in this regard and pray for the family.

6. New members – the following new members have joined the Society –

- Louis Matthee
- Zanda Roloff
- Tino Saldino
- Jaco Bothma

7. Resignation by adv Van Gend Botha as Treasurer – adv Van Gend has been appointed as an ombudsman in the Northern Cape to facilitate property disputes in Katu, Postmansburg and surrounding areas. As a result he has resigned from his position. We would like to thank him for his contribution as Treasurer and wish him good luck in his new appointment. Adv Pierre Louw has been appointed in this position for the remainder of 2018.

8. Feedback on the Legal Practitioners Act – feedback has been distributed to the members of the Society. The issues are basically that the National Forum is requesting an extension of time and that there is a dispute about fee structures. We will inform members of any further developments. Adv Neels Killian, our librarian has indicated that he would investigate further and sent any information to the secretary for distribution.

9. Accreditation with the office of the State Attorney – we are awaiting our application in this regard.

10. Letters of Good Standing – the secretary has been authorised to issue such letters in consultation with the Chairman.

11. North Gauteng Bar – on 31 July 2018, this bar has been dissolved due to the small number of members. The Chairman has been involved with this bar for some time as they indicated to become members of this Society. A meeting is to be set up as soon as possible to discuss the implications for the dissolved North Gauteng Bar. Our Society is well known with their members and the conditions are that the members apply for membership, be incorporated into our Society but that our

society would have nothing to do with their finances, credit providers or whatever. We will interview and accept members on merit.

For this reason the Federation has been non-active for some time and the principle is still that should there be a concern or aspect of mutual interest, we could approach any such matter under this forum.

12. Training session – the executive is planning a training session for 20 October 2018 at 'Diep in die Berg'. The session will start at 09:00 am to 13:00 pm. The topics for the session are lectures on evidence, jurisdiction and the use of and effect of specialised / expert evidence in criminal trials. Members who wish to attend this session is requested to diarise the date and to inform our secretary accordingly of attendance. It would be an interesting session. Detail will follow.

13. Web page and access by members – Due to the accessibility of anyone to the website, it was decided to 'lock some of the headings for members only'. Adv Pierre Louw, our web and internet guru, indicated that the unique access codes for members would be available soon. He will contact each member with his or her unique access number in this regard. Our web page and information has now been 'secured' and nobody would be able to access it for illegal purposes– hopefully!!

14. A huge number of case law has been prepared and will be uploaded onto the web site shortly – thank you to Neels and Pierre in this regard.

To all - summer is here!!

J Brenkman

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Secretary: GSA