



Something about the South African Medico-Legal Association (SAMLA)

SAMLA was formed in Pretoria in the year 2000. It is an organization led by Judge Neels Claassen, a retired Judge and an able and capable Board. It has branches in most of the major centres and provinces in South Africa.

It is an independent, neutral, educational and transparent organisation not for profit, funded by membership contributions, donations and funds generated through seminars.

The SAMLA objectives and mission statement include the following:-

- to *“Advance the Inter-Relationships between Medicine and Law”* and to *“Promote Excellence in Medico-Legal Practice”*, by *“Promoting Dialogue and Mutual Understanding between Members of the Involved Professions, guided by “Justice, Ethical Practice and Constitutional Values”*.

Membership of SAMLA includes judges, academics, legal practitioners, medical practitioners and other professional practitioners registered with the HPCSA (Health Professions Council of South Africa), who have an interest in the objectives of the Organization.

Non-Profit Company. Registration Number: 2005/013822/08

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Directors : Claassen, Judge CJ - Neels (National Chairperson); Becker, Prof Jan (Gauteng Branch Chairperson); Claassen, Dr Brand; Dutton, Adv Ian (Coalition Task team Convenor - KZN Branch Chairperson); Edeling, Dr Hanneljje (Administration- and Communications); Edeling, Dr Herman (Clinical Negligence and Mediation; Faculty Course Leader); Enslin, Dr Hans (RAF); Fredericks, Dr Gavin (National Treasurer); Jordaan, Mr Johan (FS Chairperson); Khan, Adv Jenine (Membership); Lamey, Adv Albert; Lerm, Dr Henry (National Deputy Chairperson - Legal; EC Chairperson); Munyaka, Dr Sharon; Ncongwane SC, Adv Thami (Transformation); Pienaar, Dr Hennie; Reynolds, Mr Trevor (National Deputy Chairperson - Health Sciences); Saayman, Prof Gert; Satyapal, Prof Kapil; Singh, Ms Irana; Sutherland, Ms Romany (WC Chairperson); Tiry, Adv Ayesha; Van Den Bout, Dr & Adv Anton; Wasserman, Dr Marlene.



The Organization subscribes to the highest standards of ethics in conducting business and related activities through the promotion of ethics and competent practices for the benefit of public interests.

Pursuant to SAMLA's mission statement, the Organization advances and promotes educational and other similar activities enhancing and complementing the interaction between medicine and law, both from within the health and legal professions in order to actualise the right to education as envisaged by the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996.

Where the Organization identifies public interests matters such as the present calamity prevailing in the public health care sector in South Africa, it regards it as a public duty to involve itself in collaboration with those in the middle of the situation to find ways to avert the crisis. It is for that reason that we through this summit, reach out to the President of the Republic of South Africa and those Ministers most affected, to heed our concerns and accompanying recommendations.

In the spirit of Thuma Mina we, a group of concerned South Africans and a caring Professional Organisation, offer our collective expertise and goodwill to advise the President on the medico-legal crisis in our country. Being acutely aware of the human suffering, loss of economic productivity and multi-billion rand financial losses, which are inflated by negligence, maladministration, unprofessional conduct and corruption, we address these issues in a constructive way.

Johannesburg

5 May 2019