

NewsLetter

Issue No 4/October 2023

www.medicolegal.org.za



Welcome to our newsletter dated October 2023.

SAMLA Annual AGM meeting - 21 November 2023

It is time for the election of a new board. SAMLA's annual AGM meeting is taking place on the 21 November 2023 and a new Board must be chosen. Let's be pro-active and think of persons you could nominate for the Board. Christa Koelewyn, our electoral officer has already emailed the documents required for nominating a director to all members in good standing.

1) Sixty five (65) new members have joined SAMLA between March 2023 and the 14th August 2023. A warm welcome to our newest members of SAMLA.

SAMLA Website:

We have selected a preferred service provider to renew the website. She has been provided with a scope of SAMLA's requirements for the website. Ms Young is busy working on the website, soon you will have a new and exciting website.

RAF challenges:



SAMLA has withdrawn from the RAF challenges group but will avail their services when this group requires assistance. The Department of Transport has published the Road Accident Fund Amendment Draft Bill 2023 for public comment in Government Gazette 49283 on 8 September 2023. The Bill removes the right to claim compensation and replaces it with a purported social benefit that is in fact simply a drastic limitation of compensation, and is inferior and in no reasonable and rational way comparable to the right to compensation currently enjoyed by road accident victims.

The current system of compensation adequately provides for the needs of road accident victims and there is no reasonable basis for the stripping away of the rights to compensation proposed in the Bill.

SAMLA has supported the RAF challenging group about submitting comments on the amendment RAF Act.

Dr Edeling received an invitation from the RAF EXCO committee regarding mediation, however, the meeting was cancelled by the RAF on short notice. We are waiting for the next date with the RAF Management regarding future mediation with SAMLA.

Education and Training:

Over two hundred people attended the Fireside Talk on 10th August 2023 via Microsoft Teams. It was a huge success.



Thank you for the Lecturers and admin team for assisting us with the Fireside Talk arrangements.

Mediation Committee:



A letter requesting a meeting with the Department of Health has been sent to the Department in response to the Department's request for assistance with future mediations.

We are still waiting for the Department of Health to provide us with feedback regarding the future Mediations. We thank Dr Trevor Frankish and Mr JP Venter for all their hard work in this regard.

SAMLA Foundation Course

The SAMLA Foundation course started with Module 1 on 12 August 2023 and the full course will complete on 18 November 2023. Module 6 Court Procedure and Conduct was held on Saturday, 21st October 2023. For those who are not registered for the last two modules, namely Module 7, Mediation to be held on 4 November and /or Module 8, Quantification on the 18th November. Go <https://medicolegal.org.za/> open to all SAMLA members and non-members for registration.

We thank all our presenters who have contributed to the success of the course thus far, including the Education and Training Committee, chairperson, Dr Natalie Benjamin-Damons and admin team for all your hard work in this regard.

CPD points

It was agreed that the CPD policy should be amended to the date of registration as a SAMLA medico legal practitioner for the accrual of 20 SAMLA CPD points. Medico legal practitioners should receive an automated email reminding them six months before the expiry of each 2-year cycle.

SAMLA would like to register as a professional organization and criteria required by SAQA include a system that monitors the CPD of registered Medico Legal Practitioners.

All policies will be available to members on the website.

Would you like to advertise in the Newsletter?



SAMLA welcomes advertisements, especially from Medico legal Practitioners. Classified advertisements and professional notices. Rates for classified advertisements: A special tariff rate applies to practicing medico legal practitioners. 2023 rates:

1 page R 3000,00

1/2 page R 1500,00

Small advertisements:

1 - 30 words R 450,00

thereafter R 550,00

Closing date for online classified PDF advertisements is the second last Friday of the term preceding the month of publications. Adverts for 2023 are closed as this is our last newsletter. Next newsletter is in Jan-Feb 2024.

Advertisement and replies should be addressed to: The Editor , SAMLA, email: marykep18@gmail.com

The next newsletter will be in January/February 2024

Greetings from the Editor

M PIENAAR
Director of Communications of SAMLA