



The South African Medico-Legal Association

15 March 2022

TO THE ROAD ACCIDENT FUND:

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RE: RECENT MEDIA COVERAGE : NON-PAYMENT OF RAF MEDICO LEGAL EXPERTS

The above has reference.

There has been a flurry of media activity in the last few days, the contents of which are immensely concerning to SAMLA as well as its members.

There appears to have been claims in the media that the RAF has denied liability for the cost of medico legal reports prepared by experts at the instance and request of the RAF's panel attorneys – this during a time when such attorneys were mandated to act on behalf of the RAF.

Before we address our members, it is crucial that we have an understanding of exactly what the RAF's position is in relation to the outstanding accounts of its medico legal experts.

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

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SAMLA is a public benefit entity which seeks to *inter alia* promote the public interest. As such, we foster engagement and transparent communication with all stakeholders within the RAF compensation system.

We fear that the withdrawal of RAF medico legal reports by its experts shall have catastrophic consequences for the RAF and accident victims alike. Similarly, the experts who have prepared these reports shall no doubt embark upon aggressive litigation to recoup their losses.

Please would you clarify whether or not it is the intention of the RAF to settle the outstanding accounts of medico legal experts who have rendered reports on the instruction and request of its erstwhile attorneys.

If there are terms or conditions with which the RAF requires compliance in order to effect payment, please would you advise of same so that we can relay them to members.

Your urgent response hereto would be appreciated.

Kind regards

Prof Ethelwynn L Stellenberg
SAMLA National Chairperson