Report by Treasurer on Financials of JAA
(June 2022 – May 2023)

It is with pleasure that I present the 2023 Annual Financial Statements for the Johannesburg Attorneys Association.

This is the first time in a while that we have been able to present a set of financial statements which reflects a profit for the year, albeit insubstantial.

Unfortunately, we were not able to present the Allan West Conveyancing Seminar this year, which was a wonderful seminar, as well as being a welcome income producer for the Association. The Association did however present various Seminars which generated much-needed income.

For the first time the JAA hosted the Judges Function and was honored with the attendance of the Chief Justice, the Judge President of Gauteng and the Deputy Judge President of the Johannesburg High Court. Unfortunately, Johannesburg practitioners are not used to attending such functions and the amount of time and effort that went into the Judge's Function was not reflected in the income that the event generated, although the evening was a resounding success and enjoyed by all who attended.

Also, a Golf-day was planned and arranged, but it had to be cancelled due to poor uptake by members.

We did have a small subscription increase in the 2023 financial year, but this increase was not sufficient to allow us to make any meaningful improvements in our facilities services. Hopefully the increase that has been implemented this year will allow us to upgrade our value-added services such as the upgrade of the computers in the Johannesburg High Court office.

We are still struggling with members who do not pay their subscriptions timeously, or at all, as well as with members who do not notify us of the change in details. This results in cash flow issues, as well as the necessity to claim refunds from SARS in respect of VAT paid to SARS on cancelled or uncollected subscriptions.

Furthermore, our High Court office income deceased, and this is again due to the implementation of Caselines and Court Online .

Despite the general increase in every aspect of our economy, our cost of sales managed to reduce again and I must thank our staff for their awareness of this fact and managing to keep operating on a shoestring, as well as utilizing their own resources at times.

Again, our Annual Financial statements have been prepared and reviewed by Helen Hamann, who assists the Association with a very generous discount on fees and I would propose that we continue to utilize her services.

KATHERINE GASCOIGNE
Treasurer
14 September 2023