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THE JOHANNESBURG ATTORNEYS' ASSOCIATION

Date: 28 April 2021

TO ALL MEMBERS
VIA E-MAIL

Dear Member

,
RE: JAA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION FEE INCREASE 2021/2022

The Johannesburg Attorneys Association (JAA) is a voluntary organisation of attorneys which operates in the Greater Johannesburg area. We have been active in serving our members for over 80 years.

The JAA has two income streams, one being subscription income of R460,00 per member per annum, and the other being the sales income generated by the services provided to our members and the public in the Johannesburg High Court, the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court and the Randburg Magistrate's Court. The JAA had an office in each Court for our clients and this activity generated its main source of income.

In October 2019, the Courts introduced Caselines, which has had an enormous impact on the income generated by the JAA. We noticed an immediate decrease in turnover due to both the ability of members to attend at our offices, as well as the requirements for copies due to the online nature of pleadings.

In April 2020 COVID-19 completely stopped our ability to earn any income and whilst the situation has improved slightly we have been forced to close our offices in both of the Magistrate's Courts and to retrench the staff members that manned them.

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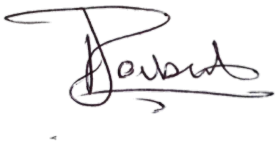
The situation to date is that our ability to earn income has been enormously impacted by the introduction of Caselines and COVID-19 and as a result our ability to fund the JAA overheads has been under severe pressure.

The Constitution of the JAA empowers our Executive Committee to determine the membership subscription fees from time to time and we have had little choice but to take an increase into consideration to ensure the continued survival of the JAA. While this will not cover our shortfall completely, we are looking at other revenue streams and trust that the situation will improve.

After careful consideration and taking into account the pressures many practicioners are under, we have decided to increase the fees by only R200 per annum, excluding VAT, bringing the annual fee to R690. This equates to a monthly fee of R 57.50, including VAT.

We thank you for your continued support and look forward to a challenging year ahead.



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