

# RISK ALERT

JULY 2022 NO 3/2022

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## RISK MANAGEMENT COLUMN

### NOTICE: LPIIF POLICIES FOR THE 2022/2023 INSURANCE YEAR

The Legal Practitioners Indemnity Insurance Fund NPC's 2022/2023 insurance scheme year commences on 1 July 2022.

The Master Policy (and all related documents) for the 2022/2023 scheme year is published in this edition of the Bulletin. The executor bond policy, application form and the resolution required in terms of clause 3.10 of that policy are also included in this Bulletin. The respective policies will also be available on the LPIIF website ([www.lpiif.co.za](http://www.lpiif.co.za)) from 1 July 2022.

As indicated in the May 2022 edition of the Bulletin, no changes have been made to the policies as they are as applied in the 2021/2022 scheme year.

Should you require risk management training for the legal practitioners and staff in your practice, please send a request to [Risk.Queries@lpiif.co.za](mailto:Risk.Queries@lpiif.co.za). The risk management training is provided at no cost to the law firm. In the



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current operating environment, the training can either be done virtually or physically depending on what suits your practice best. Questions on the policies can also be addressed to that email address.

We wish you a claim free 2022/2023 scheme year.



**Legal Practitioners'  
Indemnity Insurance  
Fund NPC**

Est. 1993 by the Legal Practitioners Fidelity Fund



**LEGAL  
PRACTITIONERS'  
FIDELITY FUND**  
SOUTH AFRICA

# RISK ALERT



**Legal Practitioners  
Indemnity Insurance  
Fund NPC**

Est. 1993 by the Legal Practitioners Fidelity Fund

## THE 2022/2023 LPIIF MASTER POLICY

### PREAMBLE

The **Legal Practitioners' Fidelity Fund**, as permitted by the **Act**, has contracted with the **Insurer** to provide professional indemnity insurance to the **Insured**, in a sustainable manner and with due regard for the interests of the public by:

- a) protecting the integrity, esteem, status and assets of the **Insured** and the legal profession;
- b) protecting the public against indemnifiable and provable losses arising out of **Legal Services** provided by the **Insured**, on the basis set out in this policy.

### DEFINITIONS:

- I **Act:** The Legal Practice Act 28 of 2014;
- II **Annual Amount of Cover:** The total available amount of cover for the **Insurance Year** for the aggregate of payments made for all **Claims**, **Approved Costs** and **Claimants' Costs** in respect of any **Legal Practice** as set out in Schedule A;
- III **Approved Costs:** Legal and other costs incurred by the **Insured** with the **Insurer's** prior written consent (which will be in the **Insurer's** sole discretion) in attempting to prevent a **Claim** or limit the amount of a potential **Claim**;
- IV **Legal Practitioners' Fidelity Fund:** As referred to in Section 53 of the **Act**;
- V **Bridging Finance:** The provision of short-term finance to a party to a **Conveyancing Transaction** before it has been registered in the Deeds Registry;
- VI **Claim:** A written demand for compensation from the **Insured**, which arises out of the **Insured's** provision of **Legal Services**. For the purposes of this policy, a written demand is any written communication or legal document that either makes a demand for or intimates or implies an intention to demand compensation or damages from an **Insured**;
- VII **Claimant's Costs:** The legal costs the **Insured** is obliged to pay to a claimant by order of a court, arbitrator, or by an agreement approved by the **Insurer**;
- VIII **Conveyancing Transaction:** A transaction which:
  - a) involves the transfer of legal title to, or the registration of a real right in immovable property from, one or more legal entities or natural persons to another; and/or
  - b) involves the registration or cancellation of any mortgage bond or real right over immovable property; and/or
- IX **c)** is required to be registered in any Deeds Registry in the Republic of South Africa, in terms of any relevant legislation;
- X **Cybercrime:** Any criminal or other offence that is facilitated by or involves the use of electronic communications or information systems, including any device or the internet or any one or more of them. (The device may be the agent, the facilitator or the target of the crime or offence). Hacking of any of the electronic environments is not a necessity in order for the offence or the loss to fall within this definition;
- XI **Defence Costs:** The reasonable costs the **Insurer** or **Insured**, with the **Insurer's** written consent, incurs in investigating and defending a **Claim** against an **Insured**;
- XII **Dishonest:** Bears its ordinary meaning but includes conduct which may occur without an **Insured's** subjective purpose, motive or intent, but which a reasonable legal practitioner would consider to be deceptive or untruthful or lacking integrity or conduct which is generally not in keeping with the ethics of the legal profession;
- XIII **Employee:** A person who is or was employed or engaged by the **Legal Practice** to assist in providing **Legal Services**. (This includes in-house legal consultants, associates, professional assistants, candidate legal practitioners, paralegals and clerical staff but does not include an independent contractor who is not a **Practitioner**);
- XIV **Excess:** The first amount (or deductible) payable by the **Insured** in respect of each and every **Claim** (including **Claimant's Costs**) as set out in schedule B;
- XV **Fidelity Fund Certificate:** A certificate provided for in terms of section 84 of the **Act**, read with Rules 3,47, 48 and 49 of the South African Legal Practice Council Rules made under the authority of section 95(1) of the **Act**;
- XVI **Innocent Principal:** Each current or former **Principal** who:
  - a) may be liable for the debts and liabilities of the **Legal Practice**; and
  - b) did not personally commit or participate in committing the **Dishonest**, fraudulent or other criminal act and had no knowledge or awareness of such act;
- XVII **Insured:** The persons or entities referred to in clauses 5 and 6 of this policy;

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**XVII Insurer:** The Legal Practitioners Indemnity Insurance Fund NPC, Reg. No. 93/03588/08;

**XVIII Insurance Year:** The period covered by the policy, which runs from 1 July of the first year to 30 June of the following year;

**XIX Legal Practice:** The person or entity listed in clause 5 of this policy;

**XX Legal Services:** Work reasonably done or advice given in the ordinary course of carrying on the business of a **Legal Practice** in the Republic of South Africa in accordance with the provisions of section 33 of the **Act**. Work done or advice given on the law applicable in jurisdictions other than the Republic of South Africa are specifically excluded, unless provided by a person admitted to practise in the applicable jurisdiction;

**XXI Practitioner:** Any attorney, advocate referred to in section 34(2)(b) of the **Act**, notary or conveyancer as defined in the **Act**;

**XXII Prescription Alert:** The computerised back-up diary system that the **Insurer** makes available to the legal profession;

**XXIII Principal:** An advocate referred in section 34(2)(b) of the **Act**, sole **Practitioner**, partner or director of a **Legal Practice** or any person who is publicly held out to be a partner or director of a **Legal Practice**;

**XXIV Risk Management Questionnaire:** A self-assessment questionnaire which can be downloaded from or completed on the **Insurer's** website ([www.lpiif.co.za](http://www.lpiif.co.za)) and which must be completed annually by the advocate referred to in section 34(2)(b) of the **Act**, sole practitioner, senior partner, director or designated risk manager of the **Insured** as referred to in clause 5. The annual completion of the **Risk Management Questionnaire** is prescribed by this policy (see clause 23) and the South African Legal Practice Council Rules (the Rules) made under the **Act**;

**XXV Road Accident Fund claim (RAF):** A claim for compensation for losses in respect of bodily injury or death caused by, arising from or in any way connected with the driving of a motor vehicle (as defined in the Road Accident Fund Act 56 of 1996 or any predecessor or successor of that Act) in the Republic of South Africa;

**XXVI Senior Practitioner:** A **Practitioner** with no less than 15 years' standing in the legal profession, with experience in professional indemnity insurance law;

**XXVII Trading Debt:** A debt incurred as a result of the undertaking of the **Insured's** business or trade. (Trading debts are not compensatory in nature and this policy deals only with claims for compensation). This exclusion includes (but is not limited to) the following:

- a refund of any fee or disbursement charged by the **Insured** to a client;
- damages or compensation or payment calculated by reference to any fee or disbursement charged by the **Insured** to a client;

- payment of costs relating to a dispute about fees or disbursements charged by the **Insured** to a client; and/or
- any labour dispute or act of an administrative nature in the **Insured's** practice.

## WHAT COVER IS PROVIDED BY THIS POLICY?

- On the basis set out in this policy, the **Insurer** agrees to indemnify the **Insured** against professional legal liability to pay compensation to any third party:
  - that arises out of the provision of **Legal Services** by the **Insured**; and
  - where the **Claim** is first made against the **Insured** during the current **Insurance Year**.
- The **Insurer** agrees to indemnify the **Insured** for **Claimants' Costs** and **Defence Costs** on the basis set out in this policy.
- The **Insurer** agrees to indemnify the **Insured** for **Approved Costs** in connection with any **Claim** referred to in clause 1.
- As set out in clause 38, the **Insurer** will not indemnify the **Insured** in the current **Insurance Year**, if the circumstance giving rise to the **Claim** has previously been notified to the **Insurer** by the **Insured** in an earlier **Insurance Year**.

## WHO IS INSURED?

- Provided that each **Principal** had a **Fidelity Fund Certificate** at the time of the circumstance, act, error or omission giving rise to the **Claim**, the **Insurer** insures all **Legal Practices** providing **Legal Services** in the form of either:
  - a sole **Practitioner**;
  - a partnership of **Practitioners**;
  - an incorporated **Legal Practice** as referred to in section 34(7) of the **Act**; or
  - an advocate referred to in section 34(2)(b) of the **Act**. For purposes of this policy, an advocate referred to in section 34(2)(b) of the **Act**, will be regarded as a sole practitioner.
- The following are included in the cover provided to the **Legal Practice**, subject to the **Annual Amount of Cover** applicable to the **Legal Practice**:
  - a **Principal** of a **Legal Practice** providing **Legal Services**, provided that the **Principal** had a **Fidelity Fund Certificate** at the time of the circumstance, act, error or omission giving rise to the **Claim**;
  - a previous **Principal** of a **Legal Practice** providing **Legal Services**, provided that that **Principal** had a **Fidelity Fund Certificate** at the time of the circumstance, act, error or omission giving rise to the **Claim**;
  - an **Employee** of a **Legal Practice** providing **Legal Services** at the time of the circumstance, act, error or omission giving rise to the **Claim**;
  - the estates of the people referred to in clauses 6(a), 6(b) and 6(c);

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- e) subject to clause 16(c), a liquidator or trustee in an insolvent estate, where the appointment is or was motivated solely because the **Insured** is a **Practitioner** and the fees derived from such appointment are paid directly to the **Legal Practice**.

## AMOUNT OF COVER

- 7. The **Annual Amount of Cover**, as set out in Schedule A, is calculated by reference to the number of **Principals** that made up the **Legal Practice** on the date of the circumstance, act, error or omission giving rise to the **Claim**.  
A change during the course of an insurance year in the composition of a **Legal Practice** which is a partnership will not constitute a new **Legal Practice** for purposes of this policy and would not entitle that **Legal Practice** to more than one limit of indemnity in respect of that **Insurance Year**.
- 8. Schedule A sets out the maximum **Annual Amount of Cover** that the **Insurer** provides per **Legal Practice**. This amount includes payment of compensation (capital and interest) as well as **Claimant's Costs and Approved Costs**.
- 9. Cover for **Approved Costs** is limited to 25% of the **Annual Amount of Cover** or such other amount that the **Insurer** may allow in its sole discretion.

## INSURED'S EXCESS PAYMENT

- 10. The **Insured** must pay the **Excess** in respect of each **Claim**, directly to the claimant or the claimant's legal representatives, immediately it becomes due and payable.  
Where two or more **Claims** are made simultaneously, each **Claim** will attract its own **Excess** and, to the extent that one or more **Claims** arise from the same circumstance, act, error or omission, the **Insured** must pay the **Excess** in respect of each such **Claim**;
- 11. The **Excess** is calculated by reference to the number of **Principals** that made up the **Legal Practice** on the date of the circumstance, act, error or omission giving rise to the **Claim**, and the type of matter giving rise to the **Claim**, as set out in Schedule B.
- 12. The **Excess** set out in column A of Schedule B applies:
  - a) in the case of a **Claim** arising out of the prescription of a **Road Accident Fund claim**. This **Excess** increases by an additional 20% if **Prescription Alert** has not been used and complied with by the **Insured**, by timeous lodgement and service of summons in accordance with the reminders sent by **Prescription Alert**;
  - b) in the case of a **Claim** arising from a **Conveyancing Transaction**.
- 13. In the case of a **Claim** where clause 20 applies, the **excess** increases by an additional 20%.
- 14. No **Excess** applies to **Approved costs or Defence costs**.
- 15. The **Excess** set out in column B of Schedule B applies to all other types of **Claim**.

## WHAT IS EXCLUDED FROM COVER?

- 16. This policy does not cover any liability for compensation:
  - a) arising out of or in connection with the **Insured's Trading Debts** or those of any **Legal Practice** or business managed by or carried on by the **Insured**;
  - b) arising from or in connection with misappropriation or unauthorised borrowing by the **Insured** or **Employee** or agent of the **Insured** or of the **Insured's** predecessors in practice, of any money or other property belonging to a client or third party and/or as referred to in section 55 of the **Act**;
  - c) which is insured or could more appropriately have been insured under any other valid and collectible insurance policy available to the **Insured**, covering a loss arising out of the normal course and conduct of the business, or where the risk has been guaranteed by a person or entity, either in general or in respect of a particular transaction, to the extent to which it is covered by the guarantee. This includes but is not limited to Misappropriation of Trust Funds, Personal Injury, Commercial and Cybercrime insurance policies;
  - d) arising from or in terms of any judgment or order(s) obtained in the first instance other than in a court of competent jurisdiction within the Republic of South Africa;
  - e) arising from or in connection with the provision of **Investment Advice**, the administration of any funds or taking of any deposits as contemplated in:
    - (i) the Banks Act 94 of 1990;
    - (ii) the Financial Advisory and Intermediary Services Act 37 of 2002;
    - (iii) the Agricultural Credit Act 28 of 1996;
    - (iv) any law administered by the Financial Sector Conduct Authority and/or the South African Reserve Bank and any regulations issued thereunder; or
    - (v) the Medical Schemes Act 131 of 1998 as amended or replaced;

For purposes of this Clause, **Investment Advice** means any recommendation, guidance or proposal of a financial nature furnished to any client or group of clients -

    - a) in respect of the purchase of any financial product; or
    - b) in respect of the investment in any financial product; or
    - c) to engage any financial service provider.
  - f) arising where the **Insured** is instructed to invest money on behalf of any person, except for an instruction to invest the funds in an interest-

bearing account in terms of section 86(4) of the Act, and if such investment is done pending the conclusion or implementation of a particular matter or transaction which is already in existence or about to come into existence at the time the investment is made; This exclusion does not apply (subject to the other provisions of this policy) to funds which the **Insured** is authorised to invest in his or her capacity as executor, trustee, curator or in any similar representative capacity;

g) arising from or in connection with any fine, penalty, punitive or exemplary damages awarded against the **Insured**, or from an order against the **Insured** to pay costs *de bonis propriis*;

h) arising out of or in connection with any work done on behalf of an entity defined in the Housing Act 107 of 1997 or its representative, with respect to the National Housing Programme provided for in the Housing Act;

i) directly or indirectly arising from, or in connection with or as a consequence of the provision of **Bridging Finance** in respect of a **Conveyancing Transaction**. This exclusion does not apply where **Bridging Finance** has been provided for the payment of:

- (i) transfer duty and costs;
- (ii) municipal or other rates and taxes relating to the immovable property which is to be transferred;
- (iii) levies payable to the body corporate or homeowners' association relating to the immovable property which is to be transferred;

j) arising from the **Insured's** having given an unqualified undertaking legally binding his or her practice, in matters where the fulfilment of that undertaking is dependent on the act or omission of a third party;

k) arising out of or in connection with a breach of contract unless such breach is a breach of professional duty by the **Insured**;

l) arising where the **Insured** acts or acted as a business rescue practitioner as defined in section 128(1)(d) of the Companies Act 71 of 2008;

m) arising out of or in connection with the receipt or payment of funds, whether into or from the **Legal Practice's** trust account or otherwise, where that receipt or payment of funds:

- (i) is unrelated to the successful completion of the direct instruction to provide specific **Legal Services** being carried out or having been completed; or
- (ii) where the insured acts merely as a conduit for the transfer of funds from the **Legal Practice's** trust or other account to the payee;

n) arising out of a defamation **Claim** that is brought against the **Insured**;

o) arising out of **Cybercrime**. Losses arising out of **Cybercrime** include, payments made into an incorrect and/or fraudulent bank account where either the **Insured** or any other party has been induced to make the payment into the incorrect bank account and has failed to verify the authenticity of such bank account; For purposes of this clause, "verify" means that the **Insured** must have a face-to-face meeting with the client and/or other intended recipient of the funds. The client (or other intended recipient of the funds, as the case may be) must provide the **Insured** with an original signed and duly commissioned affidavit confirming the instruction to change their banking details and attaching an original stamped document from the bank confirming ownership of the account.

p) arising out of a **Claim** against the **Insured** by an entity in which the **Insured** and/or related or interrelated persons\* has/have a material interest and/or hold/s a position of influence or control\*\*.

\* as defined in section 2(1) of the Companies Act 71 of 2008

\*\* as defined in section 2(2) of the Companies Act 71 of 2008

For the purposes of this paragraph, "material interest" means an interest of at least ten (10) percent in the entity;

q) arising out of or in connection with a **Claim** resulting from:

- (i) War, invasion, act of foreign enemy, hostilities or warlike operations (whether war is declared or not) civil war, mutiny, insurrection, rebellion, revolution, military or usurped power;
- (ii) Any action taken in controlling, preventing, suppressing or in any way relating to the excluded situations in (i) above including, but not limited to, confiscation, nationalisation, damage to or destruction of property by or under the control of any Government or Public or Local Authority;
- (iii) Any act of terrorism regardless of any other cause contributing concurrently or in any other sequence to the loss;

For the purpose of this exclusion, terrorism includes an act of violence or any act dangerous to human life, tangible or intangible property or infrastructure with the intention or effect to influence any Government or to put the public or any section of the public in fear;

r) arising out of or in connection with any **Claim** resulting from:

- (i) ionising radiations or contamination by radio-activity from any nuclear fuel or from any nuclear waste from the combustion or use of nuclear fuel;
- (ii) nuclear material, nuclear fission or fusion,

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- nuclear radiation;
- (iii) nuclear explosives or any nuclear weapon;
- (iv) nuclear waste in whatever form;

regardless of any other cause or event contributing concurrently or in any other sequence to the loss. For the purpose of this exclusion only, combustion includes any self-sustaining process of nuclear fission or fusion;

- s) arising out of or resulting from the hazardous nature of asbestos in whatever form or quantity; and
- t) arising out of or resulting from **Legal Services** carried out in violation of the Act and the Rules.

## FRAUDULENT APPLICATIONS FOR INDEMNITY

- 17. The **Insurer** will reject a fraudulent application for indemnity.

## CLAIMS ARISING OUT OF DISHONESTY OR FRAUD

- 18. Any **Insured** will not be indemnified for a **Claim** that arises:
  - a) directly or indirectly from any **Dishonest**, fraudulent or other criminal act or omission by that **Insured**;
  - b) directly or indirectly from any **Dishonest**, fraudulent or other criminal act or omission by another party and that **Insured** was knowingly connected with, or colluded with or condoned or acquiesced or was party to that dishonesty, fraud or other criminal act or omission.Subject to clauses 16, 19 and 20, this exclusion does not apply to an **Innocent Principal**.
- 19. In the event of a **Claim** to which clause 18 applies, the **Insurer** will have the discretion not to make any payment, before the **Innocent Principal** takes all reasonable action to:
  - a) institute criminal proceedings against the alleged **Dishonest** party and present proof thereof to the **Insurer**; and/or
  - b) sue for and obtain reimbursement from any such alleged **Dishonest** party or its or her or his estate or legal representatives;Any benefits due to the alleged **Dishonest** party held by the **Legal Practice**, must, to the extent allowable by law, be deducted from the **Legal Practice's** loss.
- 20. Where the **Dishonest** conduct includes:
  - a) the witnessing (or purported witnessing) of the signing or execution of a document without seeing the actual signing or execution; or
  - b) the making of a representation (including, but not limited to, a representation by way of a certificate, acknowledgement or other document) which was known at the time it was made to be false;The **Excess** payable by the **Innocent Insured** will be increased by an additional 20%.

- 21. If the **Insurer** makes a payment of any nature under the policy in connection with a **Claim** and it later emerges that it wholly or partly arose from a **Dishonest**, fraudulent or other criminal act or omission of the **Insured**, the **Insurer** will have the right to recover full repayment from that **Insured** and any party knowingly connected with that **Dishonest**, fraudulent or criminal act or omission.

## THE INSURED'S RIGHTS AND DUTIES

- 22. The **Insured** must:
  - a) give immediate written notice to the **Insurer** of any circumstance, act, error or omission that may give rise to a **Claim**; and
  - b) notify the **Insurer** in writing as soon as practicable, of any **Claim** made against them, but by no later than one (1) week after receipt by the **Insured**, of a written demand or summons/counterclaim or application. In the case of a late notification of receipt of the written demand, summons or application by the **Insured**, the **Insurer** reserves the right not to indemnify the **Insured** for costs and ancillary charges incurred prior to or as a result of such late notification;
- 23. Once the **Insured** has notified the **Insurer**, the **Insurer** will require the **Insured** to provide a completed **Risk Management Questionnaire** and to complete a claim form providing all information reasonably required by the **Insurer** in respect of the **Claim**. The **Insured** will not be entitled to indemnity until the claim form and **Risk Management Questionnaire** have been completed by the **Insured**, to the **Insurer's** reasonable satisfaction and returned to the **Insurer**.
- 24. The **Insured**:
  - 24.1. shall not cede or assign any rights in terms of this policy;
  - 24.2. agrees not to, without the **Insurer's** prior written consent:
    - a) admit or deny liability for a **Claim**;
    - b) settle a **Claim**;
    - c) incur any costs or expenses in connection with a **Claim** unless the sum of the **Claim** and **Claimant's Costs** falls within the **Insured's Excess**;failing which, the **Insurer** will be entitled to reject the **Claim**, but will have sole discretion to agree to provide indemnity, wholly or partly.
- 25. The **Insured** agrees to give the **Insurer** and any of its appointed agents:
  - 25.1. all information and documents that may be reasonably required, at the **Insured's** own expense.
  - 25.2. assistance and cooperation, which includes, but not limited to, preparing, service and filing of notices and pleadings by the **Insured**

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as specifically instructed by the **Insurer** at the **Insurer's** expense, which expenses must be agreed to in writing.

26. The **Insured** also gives the **Insurer** or its appointed agents the right of reasonable access to the **Insured's** premises, staff and records for purposes of inspecting or reviewing them in the conduct of an investigation of any **Claim** where the **Insurer** believes such review or inspection is necessary.

27. Notwithstanding anything else contained in this policy, should the **Insured** fail or refuse to provide information, documents, assistance or cooperation in terms of this policy, to the **Insurer** or its appointed agents and remain in breach for a period of ten (10) working days after receipt of written notice to remedy such breach (from the **Insurer** or its appointed agents) the **Insurer** has the right to:

- withdraw indemnity; and/or
- report the **Insured's** conduct to the regulator; and/or
- recover all payments and expenses incurred by it.

For the purposes of this paragraph, written notice will be sent to the address last provided to the **Insurer** by the **Insured** and will be deemed to have been received five (5) working days after electronic transmission or posting by registered mail.

28. By complying with the obligation to disclose all documents and information required by the **Insurer** and its legal representatives, the **Insured** does not waive any claim of legal professional privilege or confidentiality.

29. Where a breach of, or non-compliance with any term of this policy by the **Insured** has resulted in material prejudice to the handling or settlement of any **Claim** against the **Insured**, the **Insured** will reimburse the **Insurer** the difference between the sum payable by the **Insurer** in respect of that **Claim** and the sum which would in the sole opinion of the **Insurer** have been payable in the absence of such prejudice. It is a condition precedent of the **Insurer's** right to obtain reimbursement, that the **Insurer** has fully indemnified the **Insured** in terms of this policy.

30. Written notification of any new **Claim** must be given to:

**Legal Practitioners Indemnity Insurance Fund NPC**  
**1256 Heuwel Avenue|Centurion|0127**  
**PO Box 12189|Die Hoewes|0163 Docex 24 |**  
**Centurion**  
**Email: [claims@lpiif.co.za](mailto:claims@lpiif.co.za) Tel:+27(0)12 622 3900**

**THE INSURER'S RIGHTS AND DUTIES**

31. The **Insured** agrees that:

- the **Insurer** has full discretion in the conduct of the **Claim** against the **Insured** including, but not limited to, its investigation, defence, settlement or appeal in the name of the **Insured**;
- the **Insurer** has the right to appoint its own legal representative(s) or service providers to act in the conduct and the investigation of the **Claim**; The exercise of the **Insurer's** discretion in terms of a) will not be unreasonable.

32. The **Insurer** agrees that it will not settle any **Claim** against any **Insured** without prior consultation with that **Insured**. However, if the **Insured** does not accept the **Insurer's** recommendation for settlement:

- the **Insurer** will not cover further **Defence Costs** and **Claimant's Costs** beyond the date of the **Insurer's** recommendation to the **Insured**; and
- the **Insurer's** obligation to indemnify the **Insured** will be limited to the amount of its recommendation for settlement or the **Insured's** available **Annual Amount of Cover** (whichever is the lesser amount).

33. If the amount of any **Claim** exceeds the **Insured's** available **Annual Amount of Cover** the **Insurer** may, in its sole discretion, hold or pay over such amount or any lesser amount for which the **Claim** can be settled. The **Insurer** will thereafter be under no further liability in respect of such a **Claim**, except for the payment of **Approved Costs** or **Defence Costs** incurred prior to the date on which the **Insurer** notifies the **Insured** of its decision.

34. Where the **Insurer** indemnifies the **Insured** in relation to only part of any **Claim**, the **Insurer** will be responsible for only the portion of the **Defence Costs** that reflects an amount attributable to the matters so indemnified. The **Insurer** reserves the right to determine that proportion in its absolute discretion.

35. In the event of the **Insured's** material non-disclosure or misrepresentation in respect of the application for indemnity, the **Insurer** reserves the right to report the **Insured's** conduct to the regulator and to recover any amounts that it may have incurred as a result of the **Insured's** conduct.

36. If the **Insurer** makes payment under this policy, it will not require the **Insured's** consent to take over the **Insured's** right to recover (whether in the **Insurer's** name or the name of the **Insured**) any amounts paid by the **Insurer**;

37. All recoveries made in respect of any **Claim** under this policy will be applied (after deduction of the costs, fees and expenses incurred in obtaining such recovery) in the following order of priority:

- the **Insured** will first be reimbursed for the amount by which its liability in respect of such **Claim** exceeded the **Amount of Cover** provided by this policy;
- the **Insurer** will then be reimbursed for the amount of its liability under this policy in

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respect of such **Claim**;

c) any remaining amount will be applied toward the **Excess** paid by the **Insured** in respect of such **Claim**.

38. If the **Insured** gives notice during an **Insurance Year**, of any circumstance, act, error or omission (or a related series of acts, errors or omissions) which may give rise to a **Claim** or **Claims**, then any **Claim** or **Claims** in respect of that/those circumstance/s, act/s, error/s or omission/s subsequently made against the **Insured**, will for the purposes of this policy be considered to fall within one **Insurance Year**, being the **Insurance Year** of the first notice.

39. This policy does not give third parties any rights against the **Insurer**.

## HOW THE PARTIES WILL RESOLVE DISPUTES

40. Subject to the provisions of this policy, any dispute or disagreement between the **Insured** and the **Insurer** as to any right to indemnity in terms of this policy, or as to any matter arising out of or in connection with this policy, must be dealt with in the following order:

a) written submissions by the **Insured** must be referred to the **Insurer's** internal complaints/dispute team at [disputes@lpiif.co.za](mailto:disputes@lpiif.co.za) or to the address set out in clause 30 of this policy, within thirty (30) days of receipt of the written communication from the **Insurer** which has given rise to the dispute;

b) should the dispute not have been resolved within thirty (30) days from the date of receipt by the **Insurer** of the submission referred to in a), then the parties must agree on an independent **Senior Practitioner** who has experience in the area of professional indemnity insurance, to whom the dispute can be referred for a determination. Failing such an agreement, the choice of such **Senior Practitioner** must be referred to the Chairperson of the Legal Practice Council to appointment the **Senior Practitioner** with the relevant experience;

c) the parties must make written submissions which will be referred for

d) determination to the **Senior Practitioner** referred to in b). The costs incurred in so referring the matter and the costs of the **Senior Practitioner** will be borne by the unsuccessful party; the determination does not have the force of an arbitration award. The unsuccessful party must notify the successful party in writing, within thirty (30) days of the determination by the **Senior Practitioner**, if the determination is not accepted to it;

The procedures in a) b) c) and d) above must be completed before any formal legal action is undertaken by the parties.

## SCHEDULE A

Period of Insurance: 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023 (both days inclusive)

No of Principals	Annual Amount of Cover for Insurance Year
1	R1 562 500
2	R1 562 500
3	R1 562 500
4	R1 562 500
5	R1 562 500
6	R1 562 500
7	R1 640 625
8	R1 875 000
9	R2 109 375
10	R2 343 750
11	R2 578 125
12	R2 812 500
13	R3 046 875
14 and above	R3 125 000

## SCHEDULE B

Period of Insurance: 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023 (both days inclusive)

No of Principals	Column A Excess for prescribed RAF* and Conveyancing Claims**	Column B Excess for all other Claims**
1	R35 000	R20 000
2	R63 000	R36 000
3	R84 000	R48 000
4	R105 000	R60 000
5	R126 000	R72 000
6	R147 000	R84 000
7	R168 000	R96 000
8	R189 000	R108 000
9	R210 000	R120 000
10	R231 000	R132 000
11	R252 000	R144 000
12	R273 000	R156 000
13	R294 000	R168 000
14 and above	R315 000	R180 000

\*The applicable **Excess** will be increased by an additional 20% if **Prescription Alert** is not used and complied with.

\*\*The applicable **Excess** will be increased by an additional 20% if clause 20 of this policy applies.



## RISK MANAGEMENT SELF-ASSESSMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

### LPIIF RISK MANAGEMENT SELF-ASSESSMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

The annual completion of this questionnaire will assist legal practitioners in:

- Assessing the state of the risk management measures employed in their practices;
- Focusing their attention on the appropriate risk management measures to be implemented;
- Providing a means of conducting a gap analysis of the controls the firm needs to have in place; and
- Collating the information that may be required in the completion of the proposal form for top-up insurers and the application for a Fidelity Fund certificate.

### IMPORTANT NOTES AND FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### A. How often must the questionnaire be completed?

Clauses XXIV and 23 of the Legal Practitioners Indemnity Insurance Fund NPC (the LPIIF) Master Policy read with the South African Legal Practice Council Rules (the Rules) prescribe that every insured legal practitioner must complete this questionnaire annually. The LPIIF will not provide indemnity in respect of a claim where the insured has not completed this questionnaire in the applicable insurance scheme year. Attorneys must have regard to point 15 of the application for a Fidelity Fund certificate form (schedule 7A of the Rules) which provides that this form must be completed. Advocates with trust accounts rendering legal services in terms of section 34(2)(b) of the Legal Practice Act 28 of 2014 (the Act) must also complete this questionnaire annually (see point 13 of the application for a Fidelity Fund certificate form for advocates (schedule 7B of the Rules)). A Fidelity Fund certificate will not be issued to a legal practitioner who has not complied with this requirement. Any reference to a firm in this form includes advocates practicing in terms of section 34(2)(b) of the Act.

You may complete the questionnaire at any time, even if your firm does not have any claims pending. (In order to make it easier and save time, you might wish to complete it at

the time when you complete your top-up insurance proposal or Fidelity Fund Certificate application. In that way, you will have much of the information at your fingertips.)

The questionnaire is aimed at practices of all sizes and types.

#### B. Why is the risk information required?

The information which we ask for in this assessment will be treated as strictly confidential. It will not be disclosed to any other person, without your practice's written permission. It will also not be used by the LPIIF and the LPFF in any way to affect your practice's claims records or individual cover. An analysis of information and trends revealed by your answers may be used by the LPIIF for general underwriting and risk management purposes. The risk information is required:

- To assist the LPIIF when setting and structuring deductibles and limits of indemnity for the profession, deciding on policy exclusions, conditions and possible premium setting.
- To raise awareness about risk management and to get practitioners thinking about risk management tools/ procedures for their practices.
- To obtain relevant and usable general information and statistics about the structure of the firm, areas of practice, risk /practice management measures in place and claims history.
- To assist in the selection and formulation of the most effective risk management interventions.
- To assist the LPIIF in collating underwriting data on the profession.

### 1. SECTION 1

#### 1.1. General practice information:

1.1.1. Name under which practice is conducted

1.1.2. Practice number .....

1.1.3. Under which Provincial Council (s) does your practice operate? (see section 23 of the Act)

# RISK ALERT

1.1.4. Is your practice a Sole Practice/Partnership/Incorporated Company/ Advocate referred to in section 34(2)(b) of the Act?

1.2. Principal office details:

1.2.1. Address and postal code:.....

1.2.2. Telephone number:.....

1.2.3. Email:.....

1.2.4. Docex:.....

1.2.5. Website:.....

1.2.6. Details of any other physical address at which the practice will be carried on and name of practitioner in direct control at each office:

1.3. Composition of the practice:

1.3.1. Partners/directors:.....

1.3.2. Professional Assistants/ Associates/ Consultants :.....

1.3.3. Candidate Attorneys:.....

1.3.4. Paralegals:.....

1.3.5. Other staff including secretaries:.....

1.3.6. Total:.....

1.4. In the table below, list all partners/directors by name, together with their number of years in practice and their areas of specialisation. Should there be more than 10, please add a separate list.

Partner/director's name	Partner's practice no	Years in practice	Area of specialisation

1.5. For the past financial year, please provide approximate percentages of total fees earned in the following categories of legal work:

Are of practice	Percentage	Are of practice	Percentage
Conveyancing		Commercial	
Criminal		Debt collection	
Estates - trustees executors administrators		Insurance	
Investments		Liquidations	
Marine		Matrimonial	

Are of practice	Percentage	Are of practice	Percentage
Patents & Trademarks		Personal injury (RAF claims)	
Medical malpractice		General litigation	
Other (please specify any type of work that makes up a significant percentage of your fees)	..... .....		

## 2. SECTION 2

### 2.1. Risk Management Information

Risk Question		Yes	No
2.1.1.	Do you have a dedicated risk management resource/ a person responsible for risk management and/or quality control?		
2.1.2.	Are all instructions recorded in a letter of engagement?		
2.1.3.	Does your practice screen prospective clients?		
2.1.4.	Do you assess whether or not you have the appetite, the resources and the expertise to carry out the mandate within the required time?		
2.1.5.	Has your firm registered all time-barred matters with the LPIIF's Prescription Alert unit?		
2.1.6.	Are regular file audits conducted?		
2.1.7.	Is the proximity the prescription date taken into account when accepting new instructions and explained to clients?		
2.1.8.	Is a peer review system implemented in the firm?		
2.1.9.	Is advice to clients always signed off by a partner/ director?		
2.1.10.	Do you have a dual diary system in place for professionals and support staff?		
2.1.11.	Do you have a formal handover process when a file is transferred from one person to another within the firm?		
2.1.12.	Is more than one contact number obtained for clients?		
2.1.13.	Are instructions, consultations and telephone discussions confirmed in writing?		
2.1.14.	Does your firm have documented minimum operating standards/ standard operating procedures?		
2.1.15.	Does your practice have effective policies on uniform file order?		
2.1.16.	Is there a formal structure and process for supervision of staff and delegation of duties?		
2.1.17.	Do you have a formal training program in place?		
2.1.18.	Does the training program include risk management training?		
2.1.19.	Do you have any executor bonds of security issued by the LPIIF?		
2.1.20.	If yes, have the estate funds been audited as part of your annual regulatory audit? please provide a copy of the annual audit report		
2.1.21.	Are background checks (including criminal records and professional history) conducted on new employees?		
2.1.22.	In respect of the financial functions, has an adequate system been implemented which addresses:		
2.1.22.1.	Segregation of duties?		
2.1.22.2.	Checks and balances?		
2.1.22.3.	The internal controls prescribed by Rule 54.14.7 with regards to the safeguarding of trust funds?		
2.1.22.4.	Compliance with FICA and the investment rules?		
2.1.22.5.	The verification of the payee banking details and any purported changes as required by Rule 54.13?		

# RISK ALERT

2.2. What other insurance policies does your firm have in place? (for example – cyber risk, misappropriation of trust funds, top-up professional indemnity, fidelity guarantee, commercial crime, public liability etc)

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2.3. Are you aware of the risks associated with cybercrime in general and risks associated with phishing/cyber scams and the scams involving fraudulent instructions relating to the purported change of beneficiary banking details?

Yes		No	
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2.4. Does your practice have appropriate insurance in place to cover cyber related claims (Cybercrime related claims are excluded from the Master Policy- see clause 16(o))?

Yes		No	
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2.5. Does your practice have regular meetings of professional staff to discuss problem matters?

Yes		No	
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2.6. Does your practice have formal policies on file storage and retrieval? (Procedures to ensure that files are not lost or misplaced or overlooked)

Yes		No	
-----	--	----	--

2.7. Have you read the Master Policy and are you (and all others in your practice) aware of the exclusions (including the cybercrime exclusion)?

Yes		No	
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2.8. Have you and your staff had regard to the risk management information published on the LPIIF website (<https://lpiif.co.za/risk-management-2/risk-management-tips/>)?

Yes		No	
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2.9. Would your firm like to receive risk management training?

Yes		No	
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2.10. Should you require a risk management training session for the professional and/or support staff in your firm, please contact either:

**Henri Van Rooyen (Practitioner Support Executive** – Email: [henri.vanrooyen@LPIIF.co.za](mailto:henri.vanrooyen@LPIIF.co.za)

**Thomas Harban (General Manager)** – Email: [thomas.harban@LPIIF.co.za](mailto:thomas.harban@LPIIF.co.za)

NAME: .....

CAPACITY: .....

SIGNATURE: .....

DATE OF COMPLETION: .....



## PROFESSIONAL INDEMNITY CLAIM FORM

### CLAIM FORM

This claim form should be read in conjunction with the applicable LPIIF Policy for the specific insurance year, a copy of which can be found on the LPIIF website: [www.lpiif.co.za](http://www.lpiif.co.za)

Please send the completed claim form to [claims@lpiif.co.za](mailto:claims@lpiif.co.za)

#### 1. FIRM

1.1 Name of firm :		
1.2 In which Legal Practice Council jurisdiction is your firm practising?		
1.3 Firm number with the applicable Legal Practice Council:		
1.4 Does your firm practice in the jurisdiction of more than one Legal Practice Council?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If Yes, state the Legal Practice Council and the firm number in that jurisdiction:</li> </ul> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>		
1.5 Does your firm have any branch offices?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If Yes, please give us the full details of each branch office.</li> </ul> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>		
1.6 Is your practice conducted as a sole practitioner, a partnership or incorporated practice?	Sole practitioner <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Incorporated practice <input type="checkbox"/> Registration number: _____	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If incorporated please provide registration number:</li> </ul>		
1.7 Is your trading name the same as the registered name?	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Trading : _____		
Registered: _____		

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<p>1.8 Has the name of your firm changed in the last 5 years:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If Yes, please provide details of previous names and the dates when changed:</li> </ul>	<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/></p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>1.9 If a partnership, how many years has the partnership been in existence?</p>	<p>Years <input type="text"/></p>
<p>1.10 Is the name of your current partnership the same as any previously dissolved partnership you may have been involved in?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If Yes, please provide details and the date when the previous partnership was dissolved:</li> </ul>	<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/></p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>1.11 Number of partners / directors in the firm at the date the alleged circumstance, act error or omission giving rise to the claim occurred: (See explanatory Note 1)</p> <p>1 / 2 / 3 / 4 / 5 / 6 / 7 / 8 / 6 / 7 / 8 / 9 / 10 / 11 / 12 / 13 / 14 or more: _____</p>	
<p>1.12 Physical address :</p> <p>Code :</p>	
<p>1.13 Postal address :</p> <p>Code :</p>	
<p>1.14 Telephone number :</p>	
<p>1.15 Fax number :</p>	
<p>1.16 Contact person:</p>	
<p>1.17 Email address:</p>	
<p>1.18 Vat registration number:</p>	
<p>1.19 Firm's FFC number:</p>	
<p>1.20 Firms MMS number:</p>	
<p>1.21 Does your firm have "top-up" insurance?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If YES, please give details of broker, insurer and policy number for the LPIIF record purposes:</li> </ul>	<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/></p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>PLEASE NOTE THAT IT REMAINS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO NOTIFY YOUR TOP-UP BROKER/INSURER ABOUT THIS CLAIM AND TO UPDATE THEM ON ALL DEVELOPMENTS. THE LPIIF DOES NOT TAKE ANY RESPONSIBILITY WHATSOEVER FOR ANY POSSIBLE REPUDIATION DUE TO YOUR NON-COMPLIANCE WITH YOUR TOP-UP POLICY REQUIREMENTS.</p>	

## 2. DETAILS OF PERSON WHO DEALT WITH THE MATTER

2.1 Surname:		
2.2 Full names:		
2.3 Capacity:	<input type="checkbox"/> Candidate Attorney <input type="checkbox"/> Consultant <input type="checkbox"/> Legal Secretary <input type="checkbox"/> Paralegal <input type="checkbox"/> Partner / Director <input type="checkbox"/> Associate <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Assistant <input type="checkbox"/> Pupil <input type="checkbox"/> Advocate	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If Partner/Director/Professional Assistant/Associate /Consultant, please provide practitioner number:</li> </ul>		
2.4 If the person who dealt with the matter is a Candidate Legal Practitioner, Paralegal or Legal Secretary or in some other capacity as a member of your support staff, please provide the details of the supervising legal practitioner:	Name and surname: _____ Legal Practitioner number: _____	
2.5 Fidelity Fund Certificate number of the supervising legal practitioner:		
2.6 Direct telephone number of the supervising legal practitioner:		
2.7 Direct e-mail address of the supervising legal practitioner:		

In terms of the relevant Policy the Insured is obliged to give immediate written notice to the Insurer of a Claim or intimation of a Claim. (See clause 22 of the Policy.)

## 3. CLAIM

3.1 Are you notifying the LPIIF of a potential claim?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>  _____ Report Attached: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
3.2 Did you receive a letter of demand or any other correspondence giving an intimation of a claim?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>  Letter attached: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
3.3 Did you receive a summons or counterclaim wherein the liability of your firm is pleaded or intimated?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>  Summons and/or Pleadings attached: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
3.4 Did you serve a notice of intention to defend/notice of intention to oppose?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>  Notice of intention to defend attached: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

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<p>3.5 Are you in possession of your original file, relating to your conduct of the matter out of which this claim arises?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If No, who is currently in possession of the original file?</li> <li>• If No, did you retain copies of the file contents?</li> <li>• If Yes, please provide copies of entire file contents.</li> </ul>	<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/></p> <hr/> <p>YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Copies of file attached:</p> <p>YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>
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3.6 Please specify the claim type by marking the correct option: (See explanatory Note 3.)

RAF prescription ( <i>See Explanatory Note 2</i> )	Patents & Trade Marks
RAF under settlement	Marine
MVA common law claim prescription	Trustees/Executors/Administrators
General prescription	Liquidations
Litigation	Matrimonial
Conveyancing	Labour law
Commercial	Investments
Defamation/Iniuria	Wrongful arrest of 3rd parties
Prescribed medical malpractice	Wills
Medical malpractice under settlement	Other
3.7 If RAF prescription, was the matter registered with Prescription Alert? (See explanatory Note 4)	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
3.8 Has your firm notified the insurer of any other claims against it since 1 July 2016?  • If Yes, please provide the reference number under which that claim was registered and the name of the claimant.	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
3.9 Please provide an estimate of the quantum of the claim:	R-----
3.10 Full names of the claimant:	
3.11 Identity number / Registration number of Claimant:	

The risk management questions below are over and above the information required in the Risk Management Questionnaire (See explanatory Note 5)

## 4. RISK MANAGEMENT

4.1 Please provide full details of the circumstances, errors or omissions which led to the claim:

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4.2 Please provide full details of the risk management measures that have been put in place in the aftermath of this claim to prevent further claims in the future:

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4.3 If no or insufficient risk management measures have been put in place, please provide us with a detailed plan on how your firm will avoid similar claims from arising in future:

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**SIGNED**.....

**NAME**.....

**CAPACITY**.....

**DATE**.....

**EXPLANATORY NOTES:**

1. The Annual Amount of Cover and the Excess in respect of each Claim is calculated by reference to the number of Principals that made up the Legal Practice on the date of the circumstance, act, error or omission giving rise to the Claim. A Principal includes a partner or director who is publicly held out to be a partner or director of the Legal Practice. (See Clauses XXIII, 7 to 15 and Schedule A and B of the relevant Policy)
2. In terms of the relevant Policy the Insured agrees to give the Insurer and any of its appointed agents all information, documents, assistance and cooperation that may be reasonably required, at the Insured's own expense. (See Clause 25)
3. RAF prescription- and Conveyancing claims attract a higher Excess (See Schedule B of the relevant Policy). The Policy specifically excludes liability for claims as specified in clause 16 of the Policy.
4. This Excess applicable to RAF prescription claims increases by an additional 20% if Prescription Alert has not been used and complied with by the Insured, by timeous lodgement and service of summons in accordance with the reminders sent by Prescription Alert. (See clauses XXII and 12(a) of the relevant Policy) For more information about Prescription Alert please consult our website [www.lpiif.co.za](http://www.lpiif.co.za) or contact our Prescription Alert office at 021 422 2830 or [alert@lpiif.co.za](mailto:alert@lpiif.co.za)
5. The risk management questions in section 4 of this claim form specifically relate to the claim being reported to the LPIIF. The Risk Management Questionnaire is a self-assessment questionnaire which can be downloaded from the Insurer's website ([www.lpiif.co.za](http://www.lpiif.co.za) and which must be completed annually by the senior partner or director or designated risk manager of the Insured (See clauses XXIV and 23 of the Policy).

# RISK ALERT



**Legal Practitioners  
Indemnity Insurance  
Fund NPC**

Est. 1993 by the Legal Practitioners Fidelity Fund

## EXECUTOR BONDS POLICY

### 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 1.1 The Legal Practitioners Indemnity Insurance Fund NPC (hereinafter referred to as the LPIIF) will provide a bond only to the executor of a deceased estate, the administration of which is subject to the provisions of South African Law, and who is a legal practitioner practising in South Africa with a valid Fidelity Fund Certificate.
- 1.2 The LPIIF will, in its sole discretion, assess the validity of and risk associated with the information supplied in the application, and any other relevant information at its disposal, which includes the manner in which the administration of previous estates in respect of which bonds have been issued, in deciding whether or not to issue a bond to an applicant.
  - 1.2.1 If the applicant disputes the LPIIF's rejection of the application, such dispute will be dealt with in the following order:
  - 1.2.2 written submissions by the applicant should be referred to the LPIIF Executive Committee at [disputes@lpiif.co.za](mailto:disputes@lpiif.co.za) or to the address set out in clause 6 of this document, within thirty (30) days of receipt of the communication from the LPIIF rejecting the application;
  - 1.2.3 should the dispute not have been resolved within thirty (30) days, then such dispute will be referred to the Sub- Committee appointed by the LPIIF's board of directors for a final determination.

### 2. EXCLUSIONS

Before completing the application, please note that a bond will NOT be issued where:

- 2.1 the applicant seeks to/ is to be appointed in any capacity other than as the executor, which includes an appointment as Master's Representative in terms of Section 18(3) of the Administration of Estates Act 66 of 1965;
- 2.2 it is found that the day to day administration of the estate will not be executed by the applicant, partners or co-directors or members of staff under the applicant's, partner's or co-director's supervision, within the applicant's offices;
- 2.3 it is found that the administration of the estate will be executed by any entity other than the legal firm of which the applicant is part;
- 2.4 the co- executor is not a practising attorney;
- 2.5 any claim involving dishonesty has been made against the applicant or any member of his or her firm. We reserve the right not to issue any bonds to the applicant or any firm in which the applicant is/ was a partner or director or member of staff at the

- 2.6 time of the alleged dishonesty thereafter; the applicant or his or her firm has not provided the LPIIF with all updates or the required information in respect of previous bonds, or complied with the Terms and Conditions;
- 2.7 the applicant has a direct or indirect interest in the estate for which the bond is requested other than executor fees;
- 2.8 the applicant is an un-rehabilitated insolvent, suspended or interdicted from practice, or where proceedings have commenced to remove him or her from the roll of practicing attorneys;
- 2.9 the applicant has either been found guilty by a court or a professional regulatory body of an offence or an act involving an element of dishonesty, or by reason of a dishonest act or breach of a duty, been removed from a position of trust;
- 2.10 the applicant has breached the terms of the policy in respect of any matter where a bond has been issued by the LPIIF.

### 3. TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- 3.1 An applicant must complete the prescribed application form and provide the LPIIF with all the relevant supporting documents. A copy of the application form is attached as annexure "A".
- 3.2 In the case of an application for co-executorship, each applicant must sign and submit a separate application form and also sign the Undertaking (Form J262E). Each applicant will be jointly and severally responsible for adhering to all the terms and conditions contained in this application.  
The applicant undertakes:
  - 3.3.1 to finalise the administration of the estate for which the bond is requested, within twelve (12) months from date of issue. In the event that the administration takes longer than twelve (12) months, the executor shall provide written reasons for the delay and evidence thereof, not later than thirty (30) days before the expiry of the twelve (12) month period;
  - 3.3.2 to provide the LPIIF with information and access to records and correspondence relating to each estate for which the LPIIF has issued a bond, as if the LPIIF were in a similar position to the Master of the High Court (hereinafter referred to as the Master) or any beneficiary. In this regard:
    - 3.3.2.1 a copy of the letters of executorship must be provided to the LPIIF within thirty (30) days of being granted by the Master. Should the applicant fail to provide the letters of executorship

# RISK ALERT

to the LPIIF and remain in breach for a period of six (6) months after the initial thirty (30) days period, the LPIIF will not issue any further bonds, and the bond issued under this application will be withdrawn.

3.3.2.2 a separate estate bank account must be opened as required in terms of Section 28 of the Administration of Estates Act 66 of 1965 and proof of such account must be submitted to the LPIIF within thirty (30) days of being appointed as executor. When completing the application for a Fidelity Fund Certificate, all funds and property held in respect of estates must be accounted for and a detailed list setting out the particulars thereof must be provided to the LPIIF; copies of the provisional and final liquidation and distribution accounts must be provided to the LPIIF, within six (6) months from the granting of the letter of executorship. Alternatively, proof of an application for and the granting of an extension or condonation by the Master must be provided. Failure to comply with this provision will result in an application to the Master to have the applicant removed as executor and/or the withdrawal of the bond.

3.3.2.4 within 30 days after the final liquidation and distribution account having been approved, the executor must account to the Master, apply for the closure of the bond and provide proof of such account and application to the LPIIF within 30 days of doing so.

3.3.2.5 the Master's filing slip or release must be provided to the LPIIF within 30 days of issue by the Master.

3.3.3 to ensure that all insurable assets in the estate are sufficiently and appropriately insured, within 24 hours of receipt of the letters of executorship, and to provide the LPIIF with proof of such insurance within 30 days of such appointment. The insurance must remain in place for the duration of the administration of the estate, failing which the applicant and his firm will be personally liable for any loss or damage that may result from the absence of such insurance;

3.3.4 to keep the LPIIF fully informed about the progress of the administration of the es-

3.3.5 tate - in the same way as he or she would inform the Master or any beneficiary, of the progress of the administration;

3.3.6 to inform the LPIIF within 30 days of becoming aware of a change in his or her status as a legal practitioner or of any application for removal or suspension as a legal practitioner or executor or any similar office;

3.4 If an applicant or a firm reaches 75 % of the R20 million limit (that is, R15 million) as specified in clause 4 and clause 3.3.1 is applicable, the applicant or firm shall provide the LPIIF, within thirty (30) days from request, with a written plan evidencing how the reduction of the exposure in respect of active bonds older than twelve (12) months will be achieved. Failure to comply with this provision will result in no new bonds being issued.

3.5 Once a bond has been issued, the applicant will not seek to reduce its value, unless the Master is satisfied that the reduced security will sufficiently indemnify the beneficiaries and has given written confirmation of such reduction. A copy of such written confirmation must be provided to the LPIIF within thirty (30) days of it being provided.

3.6 The applicant consents to the LPIIF making enquiries about his or her credit record with any credit reference agency and any other party, for the purposes of risk management.

3.7 The applicant consents to the Legal Practice Council giving the LPIIF all information in respect of the applicant's disciplinary record and status of good standing or otherwise.

3.8 The applicant undertakes to give the LPIIF all information, documents, assistance and co-operation that may be reasonably required, at the applicant's own expense. If the applicant fails or refuses to provide assistance or co-operation to the LPIIF, and remains in breach for a period of thirty (30) days after receipt of written notice from the LPIIF to remedy such breach, the LPIIF reserves the right to:

3.7.1 report the applicant to the Legal Practice Council; and/or

3.7.2 request the Master to remove him or her as the executor.

3.9 The applicant accepts personal liability for all and any acts and/or omissions, including negligence, misappropriation or maladministration committed or incurred whether personally or by any agent, consultant, employee or representative appointed or used by the applicant in the administration of an estate.

3.9.1 In the event of a claim arising out of a fraudulent act or misappropriation or maladministration, the LPIIF reserves the right to take action to:

3.9.1.1 institute civil and/or criminal proceedings against the applicant relating to any payments already made. A certificate of balance provided by the LPIIF in respect of the payment made in terms of the bond will be sufficient proof of the amount due and payable; and/or

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3.9.2 report the applicant to the Legal Practice Council.

3.10 The other partners or directors of the firm must sign a resolution acknowledging and agreeing to the provisions set out in that resolution. A copy of such resolution is attached as annexure "B".

3.11 If there is any dispute between the LPIIF and the executor as to the validity of a claim by the Master, then such dispute will be dealt with in the following order:

- 3.11.1 written submissions by the executor should be referred to the LPIIF's internal dispute team at [dispute@lpiif.co.za](mailto:dispute@lpiif.co.za) or to the address set out in clause 6 of this document, within thirty (30) days of receipt of the written communication from the LPIIF, which has given rise to the dispute;
- 3.11.2 should the dispute not have been resolved within thirty (30) days from the date of receipt by the LPIIF of the submission referred to in 3.11.1, then the parties must agree on an independent senior estates legal practitioner with no less than 15 years standing in the legal profession, to which the dispute can be referred for a determination. Failing an agreement, the choice of such senior estates legal practitioner will be referred to the chairperson of the Legal Practice Council 1 (or his/her successor in title) having jurisdiction over the executor;
- 3.11.3 the parties must make written submissions which will be referred for a determination to the senior estates legal practitioner referred to in 3.11.2. The costs incurred in so referring the matter will be borne by the unsuccessful party;

3.12 A copy of the executor's current Fidelity Fund Certificate must be submitted annually within (thirty) 30 days of issue, but no later than the end of February each year.

## 4. LIMITS

4.1 The value of any bond is limited to **R5 million** per estate. The cumulative total of all bonds issued to any one firm will not exceed **R20 million** at any given time.

4.2 If a legal practitioner is part of or holds himself or herself out to be part of more than one (1) firm simultaneously, such legal practitioner shall be permitted to obtain bonds as a practitioner only under one (1) firm at any given time.

4.3 In the case of co-executorship, each executor needs to meet the criteria as specified in this document. The limits will apply as mentioned in 4.1 and 4.2 above as if there were no co-executorship.

4.4 No new bonds will be issued where the applicant or the firm has failed to adhere to any of the provisions of this policy.

## 5. SOLE RECORD OF THE AGREEMENT

5.1 This document constitutes the sole record of the agreement between the LPIIF, the firm and the applicant in relation to the bond to which this document applies.

5.2 This document supersedes and replaces all prior

commitments, undertakings or representations, (whether oral or written) between the parties in respect of this application.

5.3 No addition to, variation, novation or agreed cancellation of any provision of this document shall be binding upon the LPIIF unless reduced to writing and signed by or on behalf of both parties, by authorised persons.

5.4 If there are any material changes to the information contained in this application, the applicant undertakes to inform the LPIIF in writing within fifteen (15) days of such change.

## 6. DOMICILIUM

The parties choose as their *domicilia citandi et executandi* for the service of notices given in terms of this agreement and all legal processes, the following addresses:

6.1 LPIIF: 1256 Heuwel Avenue  
Centurion  
0157  
Email: [courtbonds@lpiif.co.za](mailto:courtbonds@lpiif.co.za)

6.2 The Applicant: The address provided in the application form.

6.3 Notices or legal processes may be delivered by hand or sent by electronic mail to the above addresses. The date of receipt by the addressee will be the date of hand delivery or transmission.

6.4 Either party may change its *domicilium* by giving the other party written notice of such change.

## 7. DECLARATION

If the bond is granted, I agree:

7.1 to fully comply with the terms and conditions contained in clause 3;

7.2 that all estate funds will be invested strictly in terms of the Administration of Estates Act 66 of 1965, the Legal Practice Act 28 of 2014 and the rules and regulations as promulgated in respect thereof;

7.3 to furnish the LPIIF with the annual audit certificates completed by my or our external auditors, verifying the continued existence of the property or funds under my control as executor within thirty (30) days of such certificate being issued.

I hereby confirm that I have read, understand and agree to be bound by the terms and conditions contained in this document.

DATED AT ..... ON THIS .....

DAY OF ..... 20.....

.....  
WITNESS (Full names & signature)

.....  
WITNESS (Full names & signature)

.....  
APPLICANT (Full names & signature)



## APPLICATION FORM FOR EXECUTOR BOND

### 1. APPLICANT

1.1 Surname :

1.2 Full names :

1.3 Identity number :

1.4 Practitioner number :

1.5 Fidelity fund certificate number :

1.6 Residential address :

Code :

1.7 Cell number :

1.8 Work telephone number :

1.9 Work email address :

1.10 Are you a practising attorney?

YES  NO

1.11 When were you admitted as an attorney?

1.12 Have you previously been appointed as an executor, curator, liquidator or trustee?

YES  NO

(a) If, YES, please provide a list for the past 3 years :

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1.13 Have you ever been removed from office in respect of an appointment referred to in 1.12?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
(a) If YES, please provide details :	
<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	
1.14 Has the Master ever disallowed your fees relating to an appointment referred to in 1.12?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
(a) If YES, please provide details :	
<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	
1.15 Number of years' experience as an executor :	_____ years _____ months
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• If less than 2 years', provide proof of experience, education or mentorship.</li></ul>	
1.16 PLEASE ATTACH APPLICANT'S ABRIDGED CURRICULUM VITAE	
1.17 Are you being appointed as an agent or executor?	
Agent <input type="checkbox"/>	
Executor <input type="checkbox"/>	

1.18 By whom are you nominated?	In terms of a will <input type="checkbox"/> Family <input type="checkbox"/> Master <input type="checkbox"/> Court Order <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> Details _____
1.19 Are you the SOLE executor of this estate?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If NO, the co-executor, who must be a practising attorney, should complete a separate application form.</li> <li>• J262 E must be co-signed by both applicants.</li> </ul>
1.20 Are you / is your firm personally responsible for the day to day administration of the estate?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
1.21 Has a claim been made against you or the firm relating to a previous estate administrated by you or the firm?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
(a) If YES, please provide details : _____ _____ _____ _____	
1.22 Do you have any direct or indirect interest in this estate other than executor fees?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>

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(a) If YES, please provide details :

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1.23 Have you made application for an executor bond with an institution other than the LPIIF in the past three years?

YES  NO

(a) If YES, state name of institution (s) and estate name(s) :

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1.24 Has any previous application for an executor bond with the LPIIF or other institution been declined?

YES  NO

(a) If YES, please provide details :

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1.25 Have you ever been declared insolvent or has your personal estate been placed under administration?

YES  NO

- If YES, please provide proof of rehabilitation or release from administration.

<p>1.26 Have you (or the person who will be assisting with the estate within your firm) :</p> <p>1.26.1 ever been found guilty (by a court of law or professional regulatory body) of an offence involving an element of dishonesty?</p> <p>1.26.2 been struck off the roll of practising attorneys or suspended or interdicted from practice?</p> <p>1.26.3 any outstanding criminal cases or civil lawsuits or any regulatory disciplinary matters pending?</p>	<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>(a) If YES, please provide details :</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	
<p>1.27 Is there any other material factor that you wish to bring to the LPIIF's attention?</p>	

## 2. FIRM

<p>2.1 Name of firm :</p>
<p>2.2 Firm number :</p>
<p>2.3 Number of partners/ directors :</p>

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2.4 Physical address :

Code :

2.5 Postal address :

Code :

2.6 Telephone number :

2.7 Fax number :

2.8 Does your firm have misappropriation of trust monies insurance?

YES  NO

- If YES, please, state insurer and the limit of Indemnity.

## 3. DECEASED

3.1 Surname :

3.2 Full names :

3.3 Identity number :

3.4 Date of birth :

<p>3.5 Date of death :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A copy of the death certificate must be attached to this application form.</li> </ul>	
3.6 At which Master's office was the estate reported?	<p>Province : _____</p> <p>Division : _____</p>
3.7 Master's reference / Estate number :	
3.8 Did the deceased die testate or intestate?	<p>Testate <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Intestate <input type="checkbox"/></p>
3.9 In terms of the inventory please advise the following :	<p>Assets : R _____</p> <p>Liabilities : R _____</p>
3.10 Would appropriate insurance for the insurable assets in the estate be in place on your appointment?	<p>YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>• Please refer to clause 3.3.3 of the terms and conditions.</i></p>

## THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE REQUIRED FOR A BOND TO BE ISSUED:

1. A covering letter on the applicant's official company letterhead;
2. Proof of practice or firm number;\*
3. Proof of practitioner or member number;

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4. The original form J262E (Bond of Security) which must be completed and signed by the applicant, whose signature must be attested to by two witnesses;
5. Copy of the will (if applicable);
6. Copy of certified death certificate (a copy of the death notice, if there is no death certificate);
7. Copy of court order (if applicable);
8. Inventory or statement of assets & liabilities of the estate;
9. Copy of any directions from the Master as to the security required;
10. Proof of Master's estate reference number;
11. Nomination forms by the beneficiaries/person appointing the applicant as executor;
12. The executor's acceptance of trust as executor;
13. A certified copy of the executor's identity document;
14. The executor's current fidelity fund certificate;
15. If applicant is not a director/partner a letter on the firm's letterhead signed by one of the partners confirming that the appointee is employed by the firm and has been authorised to apply for bonds of security in the name of the firm and to administer the estate on behalf of the firm. This letter must be accompanied by the certified current fidelity fund certificate of the partner/ director;
16. Applicant's abridged curriculum vitae (CV);
17. A resolution as contemplated in clause 3.10 of the terms and conditions, where applicable.

- The application documents may be emailed to confirm compliance and outstanding requirements, prior to the submission of the original documents. Original documents will still be required as the J262E must be submitted to the Master of the High Court in its original format.
- The application forms and requirements are available on our website [www.lpiif.co.za](http://www.lpiif.co.za).

*\*This may be obtained from your Provincial Council / Regulator.*

Alternatively, you may contact:

× Ms Patricia Motsepe on 012 622 3927 - email [patricia.motsepe@lpiif.co.za](mailto:patricia.motsepe@lpiif.co.za)

× Mr Sifiso Khuboni on 012 622 3935 - email [Sifiso.khuboni@lpiif.co.za](mailto:Sifiso.khuboni@lpiif.co.za)

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I hereby declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the information provided in this application is true in every respect, and will form the basis of the agreement between myself and the LPIIF. If any information herein is not true and correct, or if any relevant information has not been disclosed, the LPIIF will be entitled to make use of all rights and remedies available to it in terms of the law.

DATED AT ..... ON THIS .... DAY OF ..... 20.....

**WITNESS (Full names & signature)**

**APPLICANT (Full names & signature)**

**WITNESS (Full names & signature)**

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**Legal Practitioners  
Indemnity Insurance  
Fund NPC**

Est. 1993 by the Legal Practitioners Fidelity Fund

## RESOLUTION IN TERMS OF CLAUSE 3.10

In the matter of:- Estate Late

----- [the firm of attorneys]  
herein represented by:

1. -----
2. -----
3. -----
4. -----
5. -----

***Full names of directors or partners signing. (Attach a list if necessary)***

who warrant/s that they or she or he are/is duly authorised to act on behalf of the firm and to bind it in terms of this resolution;

and who, by signing this document, undertake/s and agree/s unequivocally that the firm of attorneys together with each and every director or partner listed above, will be jointly and severally liable to the Legal Practitioners Indemnity Insurance Fund NPC (LPIIF) for the fulfilment of the terms and conditions set out in 1 and 2 below.

1. The firm and its directors or partners will provide full co-operation to the LPIIF in the event of any claim being made against the LPIIF in respect of any fraudulent act, misappropriation or maladministration committed by the firm, or its present or former director or partner or present or former employee, arising out of the administration of an estate in respect of which the LPIIF has issued an executor bond.
2. The firm and its directors or partners will provide full assistance to the LPIIF:
  - 2.1 to institute and prosecute to completion any criminal or civil proceedings brought against any person referred to in 1 above or any individual or entity connected to any fraudulent act, misappropriation or maladministration resulting in a claim for which the LPIIF may have to pay compensation;
  - 2.2 to report any attorney or candidate attorney to the relevant law society or regulator on the request of the LPIIF within thirty (30) days.
3. The directors or partners renounce the legal benefits of "order", "excussion", "division", "cession of action", "non numeratae pecuniae", "non causa debiti", "errore calculi", "revision of accounts" and all or any exceptions which could or might be pleaded to any claim.

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Director / Partner 1 Signature

-----  
Director / Partner 2 Signature

-----  
Director / Partner 3 Signature

-----  
Director / Partner 4 Signature

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Director / Partner 5 Signature