



APRIL - MAY 2021 NEWSLETTER

SOUTH AFRICAN SHERIFF SOCIETY

Dear SASS members,

The year is moving ahead and heading for winter.

We are pleased to provide the following update to members:

1. SHERIFF VACANCIES

We believe that shortlisting and interview of sheriffs vacancies have been conducted and concluded in all provinces.

It was reported by SODESTA Gauteng that some of their members were shortlisted for posts in other provinces, but not for Gauteng. SASS, in support of SODESTA's submission escalated the matter to the Department of Justice.

It was also reported that the Sheriff Introductory Course (SIC) statement of results issued by SASSETA, was not acknowledged by some of the provincial advisory committees (PAC). Furthermore it is clear that criteria is not applied consistently by the different PAC's and these issues were raised with the relevant PAC's and with the Deputy Minister.

We were informed that PAC's will only respond to enquiries made by applicants and not by organizations, such as SASS. Therefore, members will have to address the relevant PAC with your individual enquiries. SASS is nevertheless addressing the inequity as mentioned above from a principle perspective with the relevant authorities and will updated members on any developments.

2. NON-PUBLICATION OF GOVERNMENT GAZETTES

After conducting an informal WhatsApp survey, it appeared that all sales in execution for February and March 2021 had to be cancelled as a result of the non-publication of the Government Gazette. This impasse severely impacted on our day to day work and the matter was escalated to the SABFS at the time.



South African Sheriff Society (<http://www.sassoc.co.za>)

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The problem appears to be resolved at this point but members are requested to report further incidents.

3. E-JUSTICE COMMENTS

The Rules Board issued the draft Rules for E-Justice for comment. The document is attached hereto for your information and members are requested to send any comments to sass@sheriffbne.co.za. Your comments will be considered by the SASS legal committee and will be included in our submission.

4. RESIDENTIAL EVICTIONS

Residential evictions are still not permitted under the Disaster Management Act unless a competent court has granted an order authorising the eviction or demolition.

Members are advised to keep a close eye on eviction instructions and to ensure that orders are properly issued and compliant with Regulation 73, level 1 of the Disaster Management Act.

Generally, eviction orders issued on a date within the State of Disaster should be compliant, however, members are encouraged to make enquiries to ascertain that the eviction order may be carried out, since courts do not apply the regulations consistently.

5. COVID-19 VACCINATIONS

SASS requested the Deputy Minister to ensure that sheriffs, their staff and deputies are included in the group of essential workers who will be vaccinated in the following phase of the vaccination program.

We will keep members updated of any developments in this regard.

6. BOARD NOMINATIONS

The office of the Minister of Justice issued correspondence to SASS in February 2021 requesting the nomination of at least 5 (five) members who would be considered for appointment to the Board. Unfortunately only 6 days were afforded in which to finalise the nominations; this resulted in various procedural challenges. Consequently, EXCO is in the process to develop a more permanent procedure in the form of guidelines, which will be presented to national management for consideration shortly. Once adopted, we believe this guideline will create a simplified procedure for future nominations.

Unfortunately the Board appointments have not been finalised and at this point we wish to update members on the SASS nominations and highlight some of the criteria and considerations.

Since board appointments are made on a provincial basis, we rely on the assistance of our provincial structures to assist with the nomination of members, for which we sincerely thank them.

Apart from the standard criteria, representation in terms of race and gender was reviewed as well as certain strategic considerations applicable to the profession. Members can be assured that this task was fulfilled with great care and in the best interest of the organisation and profession.

The members who were nominated for consideration by the Minister are:

- Ms A Tobias, Western Cape
- Mr A Murugan, KZN
- Ms IT Seboka, Gauteng
- Ms S Thoke, Gauteng
- Ms P Roodt, Free State
- Mr NS Maremane, Limpopo

7. SASS MEMBERSHIP INVOICES

Membership invoices were issued and emailed to all members earlier this month.

If you have not received your invoice please request same at sass@sheriffbfne.co.za.

8. CCMA WORKSHOP: 23 APRIL 2021

Thank you to management and members for attending this workshop.

We are busy compiling a report for SASS members on this topic and to highlight developments on this front.

9. PROVINCIAL MEETINGS

SASS Gauteng hosted their AGM on 19 April 2021 on a virtual platform and concluded a very successful meeting with various speakers, sharing valuable information to their members.

The following day, 20 April 2021, SASS Mpumalanga had their provincial meeting. Well done to Martin and his team for keeping up with developments and keeping members informed.

The SASS Eastern Cape meeting was conducted on Friday 14 May 2021 in East London and members also had the option to join online.

Well done to these provinces for taking the lead in the 2021 SASS provincial engagement program.

10. SASS AGM

Due to the COVID19 pandemic we are unfortunately still unable to conduct our normal Annual General Meeting. National management will consider the proposals by the relevant committee at the upcoming meeting of 28 May 2021, whereafter a statement will be issued on the way forward.

This newsletter will be published on the SASS website www.sassoc.co.za

Best Regards
Executive Committee
South African Sheriff Society