

ONLINE SEMINAR: DIVORCE AND FAMILY MEDIATION

Mediation is fast gaining ground as a realistic, expeditious and cost-effective method of dispute resolution.

Although the court-annexed mediation provided for in Chapter 2 of the Magistrates Courts Rules has not quite gained the traction initially hoped for, the coming into effect of the new rule 41A of the Uniform Rules of Court as well as the unprecedented impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on economic activity in South Africa has brought mediation, as a viable alternative dispute resolution mechanism, into sharp focus.

Seriously considering mediation as an appropriate dispute resolution mechanism will in future be the hallmark of any practitioner acting in the best interest of his or her client.

Mediation, being a voluntary process by means of which the parties themselves attempt to find a negotiated settlement facilitated by the mediator, lends itself to dealing with just about every conceivable type of dispute. AFSA Garden Route will, over the coming months, present introductory online seminars dealing with divorce and family mediation, commercial mediation and, if the need exists, mediation in RAF matters. We are also looking at presenting, towards the end of the year, an extensive online mediation training course aimed at the accreditation of participants as fully fledged mediators that are properly equipped to deal with any type of dispute. Such an accredited mediation course requires at least 40 hours of training, including role-play sessions, to ensure that participants get the necessary practical training. You will be kept informed of developments in this regard.

To assist AFSA Garden Route members, as well as all other legal practitioners in the Southern Cape region, to properly equip themselves for dealing with this new reality, **AFSA Garden Route**, in conjunction with the **Gawie le Roux Institute of Law**, is happy to present the following online seminar at a specially reduced rate:

Topic:	Divorce and Family Mediation
Presenter:	Prof Madelene (Leentjie) de Jongh. (Prof De Jongh is an acclaimed author, academic and practising mediator. She serves on the advisory committee of the South African Law Reform Commission's project on Family Dispute Resolution: Care and Contact with Children and is the project leader of the advisory committee of the South African Law Reform Commission's project on the Review of the Maintenance Act 99 of 1998.)
Date:	Saturday, 4 July 2020
Time:	08:30 – 13:00

- Cost: **R990.00** (VAT inclusive). (The seminar fee includes useful course material that will be made available in electronic format to each participant upon receipt of payment of the fee. Payment must be made by means of an electronic funds transfer into AFSA's bank account, **Standard Bank, Branch Code: 01-81-05, Account Number: 22 03 80 54 6**, by no later than close of business on Wednesday, **1 July 2020**. Such payment must be identified by means of the following reference: **GRJ** followed by the participant's **first name and surname**. Proof of payment together with the participant's first name and surname as well as his or her **email address** must be emailed to admin@afsagardenroute.co.za. Participants, or their firms, that are VAT registered are kindly requested to include their **physical addresses** and **VAT registration numbers** in the aforesaid emails for AFSA to issue tax invoices.)
- Format: **Zoom**. (This will allow participants to attend the seminar from the comfort of their offices or homes. Each participant will receive an email containing the **link** that simply needs to be clicked on to gain access to the online seminar. It is, accordingly, necessary that we receive particulars of each participant's **email address** together with the **proof of payment** referred to above.)

Kindly note that the presentation of the seminar on the aforesaid basis is subject to there being sufficient interest. In the unlikely event that the seminar is cancelled for lack of sufficient interest, the full course fee will be refunded.

Kind regards,

Jacques Malan

Branch Manager

AFSA Garden Route