



NOTICE



Payment of Fees for Assistance in Lodging a Claim with the Trusts & Contingency Fee Agreements

No claimant should pay a fee to anyone assisting with a claim. Please report such a demand immediately to 011 482 1000.

Payment of Fees for Assistance in Lodging a Claim

The Trustees of the Asbestos Relief Trust and the Kgalagadi Relief Trust (the Trusts) have decided to reintroduce the practice of the Trusts paying third parties such as attorneys for assisting claimants to lodge a claim with the Trusts.

The decision was taken in response to complaints received from claimants that attorneys were charging them excessive fees for claims related work in terms of a Contingency Fee Agreement – see below.

The Trustees agreed on the following fee structure:

- An amount of R2 500 is payable for all claims related work for claimants who are diagnosed with an ARD1 or an ARD2
- An amount of R5 000 is payable for all claims related work for claimants who are diagnosed with an ARD3 or an ARD4
- Fees are payable for compensable claims only
- Where the claimant lodged a qualifying claim with both the ART and the KRT, the fee will be split on a 50% basis.

The claims handling fee will be paid directly to the attorney who assisted the claimant whilst compensation awards will continue to be paid directly into the claimant's nominated bank account. **There is therefore no need for the claimant to pay a fee to any individual assisting with a claim.**

Claimants can choose to deal directly with the Trusts when lodging their claims.

Contingency Fee Agreement (CFA)

Following the various complaints regarding the fees charged by attorneys, the Trustees obtained legal opinion on whether CFAs were appropriate and valid in these circumstances.

The Trustees are of the opinion that any CFA entered into between a claimant and an attorney for the purposes of lodging a claim with the trusts is invalid. The process of lodging a claim with the trusts is an administrative one whilst CFAs are entered into in anticipation of or pursuant to a successful legal action where a client wins an award.

If you have signed a CFA please contact your nearest law society for advice on how to cancel the CFA. Law society addresses are found on the website <http://www.lssa.org.za/>.

For more information please contact the Trusts on 011 482 1000.

12 September 2013