

### ATTORNEYS • CONVEYANCERS • NOTARIES SINCE 1991

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### VAN RENSBURG INC ATTORNEYS POPI POLICY

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

The POPI Act broadly requires businesses to **limit their use of personal data, get consent** before using it, and let **users withdraw their consent** later on.

Van Rensburg Inc. Attorneys (VR) recognises the importance of privacy and the protection of personal information provided to it and is committed to the safeguarding of such information.

This privacy policy explains how we at VR obtain, use and disclose your personal information, as is required by the Protection of Personal Information Act ("POPI").

It contains information regarding the rights of natural and juristic persons to whom personal information relates (data subjects).

VR reserves the right to amend this privacy policy or add provisions to it at any time by publishing an updated version on its website.

### 2. The information we collect and how we collect it

We collect personal information from data subjects in several ways including but not limited to:

- data subjects contact VR for services and/or request information;
- VR provides services to data subjects;
- Individuals apply for employment at VR;
- Website usage information is collected using "cookies" which allows us to collect standard internet visitor usage information. A website visitor may disable or decline cookies. However, if the visitor does so, their user experience on the site may be diminished.

VR may collect personal information directly from a data subject or third parties such as registries and government authorities, regulators, and other legal practitioners' firms.

When a data subject engages with the firm via our website or through our social media platforms, we will collect information that includes, but is not limited to: the data subject's name, contact details, and information regarding the matter in which they need assistance.

While engaging with the data subject on the services we render, VR will be exposed to and collect personal information which includes the data subject's name, contact details, financial information as well as information regarding the data subject's matter/inquiry/case.

As part of VR's recruitment processes, we collect information from prospective Candidate Legal Practitioners and employment applicants. This information includes educational information as well as employment history. By enquiring and/or applying for employment opportunities at VR, applicants are deemed to have provided their consent to VR processing their personal information for recruitment purposes, which may include screening as well as background and reference checks.

### 3. How we use your information

We will use your personal information only for the purposes for which it was collected and agreed with you.

VR may process personal information for the following purposes, but not limited to:

- To provide services to clients;
- To comply with legal or regulatory obligations;
- If a data subject has provided their consent;
- If the processing is allowed by law.
- Marketing and promotion of VR's services;
- Providing and improving services to clients;
- Improving data subjects experience when utilising VR's websites;
- Communicating with data subjects for VR's internal purposes;
- Enabling VR's internal operations;
- To gather contact information;
- To confirm and verify your identity;
- For audit and record-keeping purposes;
- In connection with legal proceedings.

#### 4. Disclosure of personal information

VR may disclose your personal information or release it to our service providers and third parties in certain circumstances. These include, but are not limited to:

- Where we have a duty or a right to disclose in terms of law or industry codes;
- Where we believe it is necessary to protect our rights;
- For VR to provide services to its clients

The third parties to whom we disclose personal information include, but are not limited to:

- Advocates and other third parties involved in legal services;
- Third-party service providers to VR or its clients;
- Third parties who provide research services to VR or its clients
- Government authorities and registries, organs of state, regulators, courts, tribunals, and law enforcement agencies.

#### 5. Personal Information Security

We are legally obliged to provide adequate protection for the personal information we hold and to stop unauthorized access and use of personal information. We will, on an ongoing basis, continue to review our security controls and related processes to ensure that your personal information remains secure by future legislation and technological advances.

Our security policies and procedures cover, but not limited to:

- Physical security;
- Computer and network security;
- Access to personal information;
- Secure communications;
- Security in contracting out activities or functions;
- Retention and disposal of information;
- Acceptable usage of personal information;
- Governance and regulatory issues;
- Monitoring access and usage of private information;
- Investigating and reacting to security incidents.

#### 6. Access and Correction of your personal information

- Data subjects have the right to ask us to access, update, correct or delete their personal information;
- VR may in certain circumstances, legally refuse or decline such requests;
- If applicable, a data subject may also have the right to object to VR's processing of their personal information or to file a complaint with the regulator;
- If a data subject wishes to exercise their rights, they can contact VR at the details provided below;

- Please note that VR may charge data subjects a legally allowable fee for accessing, correcting, or deleting their personal information;
- Data subjects are urged to contact VR to update their personal information as and when necessary.

#### 7. Direct marketing

VR may send marketing and promotional communications to data subjects. Recipients may opt-out from receiving such communication by contacting VR at the details provided below or clicking on the opt-out link that will be included in the relevant communication.

### 8. Transfer of personal information

Personal information collected by VR may be transferred to persons in other countries. Those countries' laws might not protect personal information in the same way or on the same level as the law in our country. However, VR will take reasonable steps to ensure that recipients in other countries have appropriate privacy measures in place.

### 9. Retention of personal information

VR retains personal information for as long as may be reasonably necessary following the applicable law.

#### 10. Contact us

Any questions relating to our privacy policy or the treatment of data subjects' personal information should be addressed to:

#### vuyiswa@vrinc.co.za or to 012 342 7861

Attorney and Conveyancer VAN RENSBURG INC ATTORNEYS 221 GORDON ROAD, HATFIELD, PRETORIA

# Information Regulator

You have the right to complain to the Information Regulator, whose contact details are: http://www.justice.gov.za/inforeg/index.html Information Regulator Tel: 012 406 4818 or +27 (0) 10 023 5207



# PAIA MANUAL

In terms of the

**PROMOTION OF ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT 2 OF 2000** 

For

VAN RENSBURG INCORPORATED

REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1991/003811/21

(Hereinafter referred to as "Van Rensburg Inc.)

**REGISTERED ADDRESS:** 

221 GORDON ROAD, HATFIELD, PRETORIA, 0083

This manual is prepared in accordance with Section 51 of the Promotion of Access to Information Act, and to address key aspects of the Protection of Personal Information Act.

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# 1. DEFINITIONS

- 1.1. **"POPI**" means the Protection of Personal Information Act
- 1.2. **"PAIA**" means the Promotion of Access to Information Act 2 of 2000
- 1.3. **"SAHRC**" means the South African Human Rights Commission
- 1.4. **"FICA**" means the Financial Intelligence Centre Act 38 of 2001
- 1.5. **"Data Subject**" means the persons the following persons whose personal information is processed and retained by Van Rensburg Inc., namely:
  - 1.5.1. Employees;
  - 1.5.2. Service Providers;
  - 1.5.3. Clients;
  - 1.5.4. General public
- 1.6. **"Requester**" means any person or entity requesting access to a record held by Van Rensburg Inc.
- 1.7. **"Firm**" means Van Rensburg Incorporated

# 2. INTRODUCTION

The aim of the Protection of Personal Information Act is to give effect to the constitutional right to privacy, by protecting personal information when processed by private or public bodies, subject to limitations aimed at:

- Balancing the right to privacy against other rights, in particular, the right to access such information; and
- Protecting important interests, including the charge flow of information within South Africa and internationally.

POPI prescribes the requirements for the lawful processing of personal information obtained by the Public, the act further provides the public with remedies in instances where there has been a breach of their right to privacy.

Section 51 of the Promotion of Access to Information Act requires all Private entities to create an information manual that provides the types of data retained, as well as the procedures to be followed when requesting such information and records.

Van Rensburg Inc. understands the significance of the right to privacy and the protection of personal information supplied to it and is dedicated to protecting such information.

This manual provides the measures and conditions adopted by Van Rensburg Inc. to ensure the protection of Personal Information obtained, the procedure to be followed to request such information

Van Rensburg Inc. reserves the right to amend this privacy policy or add provisions to it at any time by publishing an updated version on its website.

# 3. PURPOSE OF THE MANUAL

The purpose of PAIA is to promote the right to access information to the public. Section 9 of the Act provides a limitation on a person's right to access information on the following basis:

- To provide reasonable protection of privacy
- To facilitate legal confidentiality;
- To provide effective governance <sup>1</sup>

# 4. DETAILS OF THE INFORMATION OFFICER

# Chief Information Officer

Name:	Vuyiswa Modisane
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Telephone number:	012 342 7861

Email address: vuyiswa@vrinc.co.za

# **Deputy Information Officer**

Name:	Thato Jethro Mashego
Telephone number:	012 342 7861
Email address:	thato@vrinc.co.za
Physical address:	221 Gordon Road, Hatfield, Pretoria, 0083
Postal address:	P.O. BOX 9110, Pretoria, 0001
Docex:	304 Pretoria

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Promotion of Access to Information Act of 2000.

# 5. SECTION 10 GUIDE:

- 5.1. Section 10 of the Act requires the SAHRC to compile and publish a Guide to assist people in accessing records and how to exercise their right to access information.
- 5.2. The Guide is available on their website: <u>www.sahrc.org.za</u>
- 5.3. Any inquiries relating to the Guide and the relating to a person's right to access information may be addressed with the SAHRC, their contact details are as follows:
  - Postal address: The South African Human Rights Commission: PAIA (Promotion of Access to Information Act) Unit Research and Documentation Department Private Bag 2700 Houghton 2041
  - ii. Telephone: +27 (11) 484 8300/ +27 11 877 3600
  - iii. Fax: +27 (11) 484 7146/ +27 11 403 0625
  - iv. Email: PAIA@sahrc.org.za/ section51.paia@sahrc.org.za

# 6. NOTICE IN TERMS OF SECTION 51(C)

Van Rensburg Inc. has not issued a notice in terms of Section 52(2) of the Act providing for categories of information held by Van Rensburg Inc. which a requester need not request access to such information.

# 7. RECORDS OF THE FIRM WHICH ARE AVAILABLE

- 7.1. Van Rensburg Inc retains information and documents as may be required in accordance with the following Acts:
  - Administration of Estates Act 66 of 1965
  - Basic Conditions of Employment Act 75 of 1997
  - Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment Act 53 of 2003
  - Companies Act 71 of 2008
  - Consumer Protection Act 68 of 2008
  - Employment Equity Act 55 of 1998
  - Electronic Communications and Transactions Act 25 of 2002
  - Financial Intelligence Centre Act 38 of 2001
  - Income Tax Act 58 of 1962
  - Insolvency Act 24 of 1936
  - Labour Relations Act 66 of 1995

- National Credit Act 34 of 2005
- Occupational Health and Safety Act 85 of 1993
- Promotion of Access of Information Act 2 of 2000
- Skills Development Act 97 of 1998
- Skills Development Levies Act 9 of 1999
- Stamp Duties Act 77 of 1968
- Transfer Duty Act 1949
- Trust Property Control Act 57 of 1988
- Unemployment Insurance Act 63 of 2001
- Unemployment Insurance Contributions Act 4 of 2002
- Value Added Tax Act 89 of 1991
- 7.2. Schedule of records held by Van Rensburg Inc.

CATEGORY OF RECORDS	DESCRIPTION OF RECORDS			
MANAGEMENT	Minutes of meetings held within the firm			
	• Documents relating to the incorporation of the firm and			
	information relating to the Directors of the firm			
FINANCE	Financial records			
	Banking records for business and trust accounts			
	Insurance records			
	Auditors reports			
	Tax reports			
MARKETING	Marketing brochures			
	Firms' publications			
	Firms' online profile			

HUMAN RESOURCES	Employees details			
	Staff training material			
	<ul> <li>Correspondence in connection with the employees</li> </ul>			
	Employment contracts			
	Unemployment Insurance Fund contribution records			
	Payroll records			
	Healthy and Safety records			
	<ul> <li>Internal records and procedures</li> </ul>			
	Code of Conducts			
	Fidelity Fund certificates			
ADMINISTRATION				
ADMINISTRATION	Lists of suppliers			
	<ul> <li>Agreements and particulars of the suppliers</li> </ul>			
	Asset register			
	Operational documents			
LEGAL SERVICES	Legal opinions and advice to clients			
	Correspondence to clients			
	<ul> <li>Correspondence with third parties</li> </ul>			
	Records for legal matters			
INFORMATION	• Records relating to software for the computers, related			
TECHNOLOGY	license			
	IT support agreements			

# 8. PROCEDURE TO REQUEST ACCESS TO RECORD

- 8.1. In order for a request to access personal information to be processed by Van Rensburg Inc, a requester must complete FORM C, which is attached hereto.
- 8.2. The requested can lodge their request with either the Chief Information Officer or the Deputy thereof, for consideration.
- 8.3. The Information Officer will notify the requester within 30 (days) from the date of lodgement of the request, of his or her decision by way of an affidavit.

8.4. The affidavit must clearly state whether the request has been granted or refused, and advise on the external remedies at the requester's disposal to challenge the Information Officers' decision.

### 9. PROCEDURE FOR ACCESS TO RECORDS THAT CAN NOT BE FOUND

In circumstances where the Firm has taken all reasonable steps to find records requested by the Requester, or the firm confirms that they are not in possession of such record, the firm will convey its findings to the requester by way of an Affidavit detailing the measures utilized to obtain or gain access to the requested records.

Should the Firm gain possession of such record, the Requester must be given access to the record, unless the Information Officer refuses access to the records based on reasonable grounds.

### **10. UPDATING MANUAL**

This manual will be reviewed by the Chief Information Officer on an annual basis to ensure consistent compliance with PAIA and any amendments thereafter.

# ANNEXURE A: REQUEST FOR ACCESS TO RECORD

### A. Particulars of private body

The Head:

### B. Particulars of person requesting access to the record

- (a) The particulars of the person who requests access to the record must be given below.
- (b) The address and/or fax number in the Republic to which the information is to be sent must begiven.
- (c) Proof of the capacity in which the request is made, if applicable, must be attached.

Full names and surname	
Identity number:	
Postal address	
Fax number	
Telephone number	
E-mail address	
Capacity in which request	
is made, when made on	
behalf of another person:	

### C. Particulars of person on whose behalf request is made

This section must be completed ONLY if a request for information is made on behalf of *another* person.

Full names:	
Identity number:	
Telephone number:	

Email address:

### D. Particulars of record

- (a) Provide full particulars of the record to which access is requested, including the reference number if that is known to you, to enable the record to be located.
- (b) If the provided space is inadequate, please continue on a separate folio and attach it to this form. The requester must sign all the additional folios.

Description of record or	
relevant part of the record	
Reference number, if available:	
Any further particulars of record:	

### E. Fees

- (a) A request for access to a record, other *than* a record containing personal information about yourself, will be processed only after a request fee has been paid.
- (b) You will be *notified of* the amount required to be paid as the request fee.
- (c) The fee payable for access to a record depends *on* the form *in which* access is required and the reasonable time *required* to search for and prepare a record.
- (d) If you qualify for exemption of the payment of any fee, please state the reason for exemption.

Reason for exemption from payment of fees:

## F. Form of access to record

If you are prevented by a disability to read, view or listen to the record in the form of access provided for in 1 to 4 hereunder, state your disability and indicate in which form the record is required.

Disability:	Form in which record is
	required
Mark the appropriate box with an X.	
Notes (a) Compliance with your request in the specified form	n may depend on the

form in which the record is available.

(b) Access in the form requested may be refused in certain circumstances. In such a case you will be informed if access will be granted in another form.

			U U		
(c)	The fee payable for	access for the rec	cord, if any, wil	I be determined	partly by
	the form in which a	ccessis requested.			

1. If the record is in written or printed form:						
	copy of record*	inspection of record				
<ol> <li>If the record consists of visual images this includes photographs, slides, video recordings, computer-generated images, sketches, etc)</li> </ol>						
	view the images	copy of the images"		transcription of the images*		
3. If the record consists of recorded words or information which can be reproduced in sound:						
	listen to the soundtrackaudio cassette	transcription of soundtrack*written or printed document				
4. If the record is held on a computer or in an electronic or machine-readable form:						
	a printed copy of record*	a printed copy of information derived from the record"		copy in computer- readable form*(stiffy or compact disc)		
If you requested a copy or transcription of a record (above), do you wish thecopy or transcription to be posted to you? YES NO Postage is payable.						

# G Particulars of right to be exercised or protected

Indicate which right is to be exercised or protected:

Explain why the record requested is required for the exercise or protection of the aforementioned right:

# H. Notice of decision regarding the request for access

You will be notified in writing whether your request has been approved/denied. If you wish to be informed in another manner, please specify the manner and provide the necessary particulars to enable compliance with your request.

How would you prefer to be informed of the decision regarding your request for access to the record?

Signed at..... this..... day of.....

SIGNATURE OF REQUESTER OF DULY AUTHORISED AGENT

