



**SOUTH AFRICAN  
COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL SERVICE PROFESSIONS**

# **ThisWeek@Council**

## **ETHICS, PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT & YOU**

During the past two years Council noted with concern an increasing number of complaints of unprofessional or improper conduct against social service practitioners. The complaints were related to negligence in the performance of professional duties; ill-treatment of clients; dishonesty; failure to keep records of services rendered; engaging in private practice work without approval of the primary employer; fraudulent activities involving the submission of claims to medical aid schemes for services not rendered; and social grants. In a recent disciplinary inquiry in KwaZulu-Natal a social worker was found guilty of unprofessional or improper conduct of defrauding a medical aid scheme of more than R1 million by submitting claims of services not rendered. The penalty imposed in terms of section 22(1)(c) of the Social Service Professions Act 110 of 1978 was the immediate cancellation of her registration and that she is not allowed to practice social work anymore.

Council published, the particulars of persons found guilty of unprofessional conduct by the South African Council for Social Service Professions during the period July 2018 to June 2019 after a disciplinary inquiry that was instituted in its 2019 Newsletter and these will also be published in the Government Gazette as contemplated in regulation 22(10)(b) of the *Regulations regarding the conducting of inquiries into alleged unprofessional conduct* (Government Notice R 917 in Government Gazette Number 25109 of 27 June 2003).

Council, as part of its obligation to promote ethical conduct amongst social service practitioners, is providing **WORKSHOPS ON THE CODES OF ETHICS** for social service practitioners, free or charge. Employers, social service practitioners, professional associations and other interested parties are encouraged to make use of this opportunity and can direct all enquiries (and invitations) to the Professional Conduct Manager at [profconmanager@sacssp.co.za](mailto:profconmanager@sacssp.co.za) or [profcond2@sacssp.co.za](mailto:profcond2@sacssp.co.za).

### **UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Professional Board for Social Work is encouraging CPD service providers to develop CPD accredited training on gender based violence (GBV).**

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Please note that all annual fees must be paid at a **NEDBANK** branch or online via internet banking.

**Bank:** NEDBANK • **Account number:** 1190739410 • **Branch:** MENLYN MAINE

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*Payment of annual fees directly at Council's office is discouraged as it creates excessive queues.*

**Please share this news with your networks as well.**

**ThisWeek@Council** is a weekly update by Council on matters of interest.

**ISSUED BY:** SACSSP Communications (7 February 2020)



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