

PERSONALISED LEGAL ASSISTANCE

Professional legal and property consulting

SONNENBERG & ASSOCIATES PROPERTY AND LEGAL ADVICE NEWSLETTER #116

1. Legal Quotes

"He must wait next day for the visits of the 'shyster' lawyers, a set of turkey-buzzards whose touch is pollution and whose breath is pestilence." [G.G. Foster]

"Lawyers are men whom we hire to protect us from lawyers." [Elbert Hubbard]

"When there is a rift in the lute, the business of the lawyer is to widen the rift and gather the loot." [Arthur G. Hayes]

2. Legal short

A lawyer had trouble reading the fine print on certain agreements. His doctor suggested contract lenses.

3. Inspiring quotes

"The secret of getting ahead is getting started." [Mark Twain]

"You miss 100% of the shots you don't take." [Wayne Gretzky]

"Success is walking from failure to failure with no loss of enthusiasm." [Winston Churchill]

4. Municipalities can no longer hold a new owner liable for rates owed by the old owner

Hurrah! Dance a jig! Sanity has finally prevailed in the on-going case of *Jordaan & New Ventures Consulting and Services v The City of Tshwane & Others* (case number 74195/13). Judge Dawie Fourie on Monday 7 November 2016 delivered a judgment overturning the previous judgment which held that municipalities could in fact hold new owners liable for the previous owners' municipal debts.

The judge found that certain provisions of section 118 of the Municipal Systems Act, Act 32 of 2000 were constitutionally invalid and that where a local authority had issued a rates clearance certificate to a new owner, they could not hold the new owner liable for historical debts of previous owners.

Good news indeed!!

I am available on 083 2515451 or fritz@sonnenberg.co.za.

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