



& Associates

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more than
25 *years!*
of
EXPERTISE
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EFFICIENCY

8 November 2021

Dear Client,

It is time to reflect again as another year draws to a close.

By now almost everybody has been touched by Covid in one way or another. We have lost friends and family unexpectedly and tragically. Our thoughts are with each and every one and we pray that you will receive the strength to carry on and cherish the many good memories left behind.

We have also heard of and experienced, miracles beyond believe and we rejoice in the knowledge of Divine intervention. And this is exactly what we need when we look around us. It takes great effort to remain positive, while everything around us is falling into despair and chaos.

We cannot rely on government or any politician, for that matter, to stop the decay and start rebuilding. We will have to do it ourselves.

Unfortunately we have become complacent (Like the frog in the pot with slow rising temperatures).

The more educated and privileged have decided to seek greener pastures abroad. Money / Investments are leaving the country at an alarming rate.

A revolution is building due to unemployment and poverty and the gap between the have and have nots.

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Somewhere in the not too distant future, likeminded people will have to come together and take a stand for our principals, beliefs and survival.

We hear every day that the world will not be the same as before Covid and that is a fact just like death and taxes.

Talking of taxes and revolution, the only way the government can pay social grants to the unemployed, elderly, under aged and salaries to an ever growing public sector, is by increasing taxes (either direct or indirect, as through a fuel levy).

A very bleak picture indeed. Even more so, if you realise that nature, animals, infrastructure like roads and water supply, will be the first to go, then, schools, hospitals, etc.

Our heritage of National Parks and monuments are already on the red list.

The price of petrol increased by 31, 5% from R14.69 per litre in January to R19.32 per litre in November and the prediction is that crude oil will increase further to \$89.53 in December. This will have a knock-on effect on all consumers.

The only bit of positive news I could find, is that Germany, France, the UK & US have partnered to support S.A's climate action goals by helping to finance the move to cleaner and renewable energy sources. These countries have pledged R131 billion over the next 3 – 5 years in the form of grants, loans & risk-sharing investments. Economists say that this is not enough. We can only hope that our honourable Minister and Government will see the light and not procrastinate while searching for a way to channel these funds into their own pockets.

Our frustrations with SARS, the Master's Office and CIPC have continued if not increased, over the past 12 months. Nobody take responsibility, there is no consistency in execution of queries / assessments.

Information or documentation is requested but without any idea of what the purpose is. In many cases we are assured that XYZ would sort the problem just to find a couple of weeks later that either nothing has been done or even more information is requested and the goal post has been moved yet again.

Yes, I am complaining, but the purpose is to try to explain to you, our client, why it appears that we do not know what we are doing.

SARS also appears to be contacting clients directly, even though we have lodged an objection or query, demanding payment or information. This leads to even more frustration and confusion.

Even though everything is supposed to be online, we spend more and more time on the phone (sometimes as much as 60 minutes per call) and doing admin work for SARS.

In light of the above, I also have the unpleasant duty to inform you that our standard fee structure will unfortunately have to increase from January.

(In some cases we have not had an increase for more than three years).

With all these frustrations behind us, we are happy to report that our receptionist, Sheree, gave birth to a healthy baby girl. (Ouma Rina is baie trots).

I am also very thankful to report that Sonja will be celebrating her 25th year with OJD in 2022. Thank you for your loyalty to OJD and service to our clients over the years.

-- 4 --

I thank you again for your support and trusting us with your tax affairs and finances. I assure you of our best intentions at all times.

Please talk to us if you have any questions or unhappiness.

Also please ensure we receive your VAT and P.A.Y.E. figures before we close on the 15th of December 2021. We will re-open on the 5th of January 2022.

Hope you have a wonderful Festive Season and wishing you all the best for 2022.

Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nico', with a horizontal line underneath.

The team from OJD (Nico, Sonja, Suzette, Rina)