



# **SOUTH AFRICAN PROFESSIONAL FIREARM TRAINERS COUNCIL**

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## **NEWSLETTER No 89 OF 2016 RIDICULOUS RAPPORT ARTICLE – 30 OCTOBER 2016**

Good day Training Providers,

Some of you may be aware of the article published in yesterday's Rapport Newspaper which makes ridiculously inaccurate statements about the PFTC.

After the numerous court rulings in favour of the PFTC absolutely nothing has changed. The PFTC mandate remains intact and there is no confusion on the part of Training Providers regarding the necessary accreditation with the PFTC. As far as the wildly inaccurate article written by Leanne George I have this to say: Leanne contacted me on Wednesday regarding allegations made against PFTC and me personally (Andre Pretorius). She demanded a written reply to be sent to her by Thursday. I did not wait for the following day but sent her an immediate reply on the Wednesday and then tried to phone her on the Wednesday evening. She ignored the calls but sent me an sms later that evening, saying she was in a conference but would call me the following day. She avoided my calls the entire day on Thursday but again sent an sms stating that she was battling with cell phone signal but promised she would phone me on Friday morning. Friday morning came and went which prompted me to send her a message stating that she clearly did not want to speak to me. A day later when I finally did speak to her she was argumentative and not interested in the truth about the allegations that she had received. It was clear to me that she already had her article written and was not about to change it. I asked her straight out if the complaints and/or statements had come from Attorney Theron Wessles and she said no.

Nothing I said to Leanne would change the fact that she was after a sensational story. I personally think that the article is totally inaccurate and very irresponsible of Rapport to print such a story.

### **Attorney Theron Wessels and Advocate Willem Smit**

What should be noted about the characters mentioned above is that for the past 3 years they have made threats and allegations against myself and PFTC stating that they are going to file court papers or a law suite of some kind but they never do. Attorney Theron Wessels and his training centre Masada were suspended by PFTC for irregularities that include fraudulent training, misrepresentation, attempting to make fraudulent uploads of learner information and the list goes on. Attorney Theron Wessels the Responsible Person of Masada was asked to attend an Irregularities Hearing at PFTC and due to his non-compliance Masada has since been de-accredited and Attorney Theron Wessels has been suspended in his personal capacity.

Theron Wessels has over the past few years taken his complaints to SAPS, SAQA, QCTO, the Competitions Commission, the Competitions Tribunal and the Hawks. His allegations have been thoroughly investigated and found to be without merit. As for Advocate Willem Smit aka "Kwaga Smit" I can only say that the man has shown himself to be the most incompetent researcher who is clearly past his "sell by date" that I have ever come across in the Firearms Industry. If these two lying, dishonest charlatans had even the slightest bit of evidence to back up their ridiculous statements they would have produced it by now. I guess it was only a matter of time before these two desperados found an equally desperate reporter who was looking to be the sensation of the week.

I find it very distasteful that an Advocate (even one that calls himself "Kwaga") would make such an irresponsible statement that "thousands of licenses could be invalid" which is clearly intended to cause panic and confusion amongst law abiding firearm owners. The firearms industry should stand together in voicing their disapproval of such actions.

It is business as usual at PFTC and there are no cases against the PFTC or Andre Pretorius (If there are, we certainly have not been notified). This matter has already been dealt with in the High Court but if you have any specific questions please feel free to make contact with the PFTC or contact me directly on my cell phone 083-267-9804.

Please see attached letter from our legal council to Attorney Theron Wessels dated almost exactly one year ago where he is reprimanded for his unethical and unscrupulous behaviour in previous matters. This man's ethics have clearly been found questionable in the past.

Sincerely,



**André Pretorius**

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