



**ASSISTING PROFESSIONALS IN  
BLOWING THE WHISTLE SAFELY AND  
PROVIDING GUIDANCE ON ETHICAL PRACTICES**

**Forum Partners**



**ANTI-INTIMIDATION  
&  
ETHICAL PRACTICES FORUM**

[www.aepf.co.za](http://www.aepf.co.za)



## ABOUT US

### What we do / Our mission

The Anti-Intimidation and Ethical Practises Forum (AEPF) was created to assist professionals who blow the whistle thereby exposing fraud and corruption in the work place. Fraud relates to schemes such as financial statement fraud, procurement fraud, and corruption. Corruption is a category of fraud.

We also provide guidance on ethical practices and a platform where professionals can have a collective voice in speaking out against unethical practices in the country.

### Who we are

The AEPF was formed in May 2014 by eight professional organisations in response to the increasing reports of professionals in the governance sphere being intimidated for exposing fraud and corruption.

### Objectives of the AEPF

- Providing a platform for participating professional organisation members to raise their concerns about fraud and corruption cases and intimidation.
- Educating members of participating professional bodies by providing practical advice, support and guidance to individuals who are intimidated and helping them to make protected disclosures responsibly.
- Acting collectively to lobby government or governmental bodies to improve whistle-blower legislation and policies.
- To be a collective professional voice calling for improved governance and greater accountability within the public and private sectors in SA.

### These are the founding member bodies:

- Association of Certified Fraud Examiners of SA (ACFE SA)
- Corruption Watch
- The Ethics Institute
- Institute of Directors of Southern Africa (IoDSA)
- Institute of Internal Auditors of South Africa (IIA SA)
- Institute of Risk Management of South Africa (IRMSA)
- South African Institute of Chartered Accountants (SAICA)
- South African Institute of Professional Accountants (SAIPA)

## BLOWING THE WHISTLE THROUGH THE AEPF

- Firstly, please read the guidance document posted on the AEPF website under Public Resources - "Internal Auditors Intimidated for Blowing the Whistle". It provides clear guidance on how to proceed when thinking about blowing the whistle (also referred to as making a protected disclosure).
- Contact your own professional organisation for advice. All participating organisations have received guidance and training on how to assist their members.
- Upon receipt of the complaint (and/or dossier of information), the participating professional organisation may refer the matter to the AEPF Evaluation Panel if necessary. The Evaluation Panel will discuss the case, and recommend a course of action. Typically such action may be a referral to an authority such as the Auditor General, Accountant General, Attorney General, Public Protector, National Treasury and The South African Police Services.
- You will be notified by your professional organisation as soon as possible regarding the course of action taken.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE AEPF LEADERSHIP

Standing up for what is right and blowing the whistle when you are being intimidated and your livelihood is at stake, is immensely difficult. However, if we all shy away from standing up for what is right, our country and the generations that will come after us are all doomed. We all have a role to play in creating and maintaining a country free from fraud and corruption. Professionals, by virtue of their knowledge power, have a greater responsibility to play a significant role in ensuring a prosperous country. When somebody has to stand up for what is right, if not you, then who? Be the light.

## PRIVACY POLICY

The AEPF undertakes to protect your privacy and we have taken all reasonable measures to protect your identity and personal information in terms of our policy. Only vetted, designated individuals who have signed our internal confidentiality and non-disclosures codes of conduct will be granted access to information submitted to the AEPF.

We cannot be held accountable/liable for cases referred to other entities which are not investigated properly or at all.