

March 2025 Q1 CEO's Note Website: <u>www.saicb.co.za</u>

One of the things I have always promised myself is to never get involved in the world of politics! Political shenanigans are just too complicated and totally out of my league. It is mind numbing how in just the last few months, the whole world has been impacted by the "changes in the guard" in the USA. What has amazed me the most is the appearance of so many political experts on social media.

How do we stay positive when looking at everything happening in regions like Russia \ Ukraine; Israel \ Palestine; the continuing unrest in the Middle East and even closer to home the wars in Central Africa. Add to that, the serious infrastructure & economic issues creating poverty in South Africa, the worsening economic situation in Europe with all types of social issues arising from people displaced by wars in their countries – we are all continuously facing **"The Challenges of Change"** at a level most of us have never experienced in our lifetimes.

I like to remind myself to simply do what I can do! I do not ignore the world and circumstance around me, I rather look to involve myself where I can make a difference – **I look for motivation in the good news.**

As we reflect on the past year, we are proud to report that the Insurance Crime Bureau has made a significant impact in the fight against crime in South Africa. Our mission to create a safer and more just society has been unwavering and our efforts have yielded tangible results.

STRATEGIC ACHIEVEMENTS:

Expanded Eminence: Through the expansion of our presence within both the Insurance & Financial sectors, we can report a significant impact on criminals operating in the sectors. Our increasingly data-driven approach has been key in identifying syndicates and focusing targeted interventions on increasing successful results.

Stakeholder Management: We have strengthened our community programs engaging with muti-disciplined individuals through workshops, training sessions and awareness campaigns. We feel our consultative approach has fostered a sense of ownership and responsibility amongst our members, encouraging them to take responsibility in actively combatting crime.

In addition to our Members, we continue to explore and conclude strategic partnerships with stakeholders such Law Enforcement and interested organisations. These collaborations have further enhanced our capacity to respond to crime and have ensured a more coordinated approach to justice. **Digital Transformation:** We have recently leveraged numerous types of technology to amplify our impact. At our annual conference in June, we will unpack some of these technological developments as well as showcase how they can add value to your forensics journey.

THE MORE IMMEDIATE FUTURE:

While we have made significant progress, we still encounter numerous challenges in our immediate environment. The ongoing scourge of crime, limited resources and increasing societal pressures continue to challenge us. However, we remain committed to our mission and are exploring innovative solutions to address these challenges.

We are proud of the progress we have made and grateful for the dedication and hard work of our team, partners and supporters. As we move forward, we will remain steadfast in our commitment to combating crime and promoting justice in South Africa.

As we look to the future, we are excited by the opportunities that lie ahead. We will continue to strengthen our partnerships, invest in technology, looking to create opportunities where together we can create a safer more just society for all South Africans.

Thank you for your continued support and let's keep creating good news!!

Garth de Klerk Insurance Crime Bureau - CEO