



Steven Powell

Executive | insurance, forensics
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"forensics for me is not a job; it's an opportunity to live a passion"

practical experience

Steven Powell is Head of ENSAfrica's Forensics practice. He is a renowned specialist white-collar crime prosecutor and forensics lawyer. Steven specialises in leading forensic investigations that result in successful disciplinary and criminal proceedings against offenders, as well as the recovery of losses in both civil and criminal matters.

Steven is well-known for his skilful application of deception detection techniques, which has resulted in a high percentage of confessions during suspect interviews. In recognition of this expertise, Steven has been appointed to act for the South African Asset Forfeiture Unit to execute a multitude of restraint and forfeiture orders to recover the proceeds of crime flowing from corporate fraud, and drug and abalone smuggling. In addition, he has previously acted as a specialist prosecutor for the South African Justice Department, and has conducted a multitude of fidelity claims against insurers on behalf of clients.

Steven's experience also includes anti-fraud and corruption matters and assisting clients to meet the anti-corruption compliance requirements in the US Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, the UK Bribery Act, as well as the South African Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act. Steven also assists clients with anti-fraud and anti-bribery due diligence and compliance programmes, and with preventing fraud through the development and implementation of policies and strategies and specialised in-house training and educational programmes.

Further, Steven has extensive experience in conducting enhanced anti-bribery due diligence investigations in respect of mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures and agent/intermediary appointments. His experience also includes performing forensic work across a multitude of industries in both the private and public sectors.

Steven is also frequently invited to present on the topics of white-collar crime, and corruption and fraud issues throughout Africa. Further, he lectures on corruption for the University of the Western Cape's Forensics certificate course and is a regular speaker at the Universities of Cape Town and Stellenbosch.

Steven was awarded the "Rick Brady Financial Crimes Investigator of the Year" by the International Association of Financial Crimes Investigators (IAFCI) in 2022. He is the first person in Africa to be given this honour.

Steven is recognised as a leading/recommended lawyer by:

- Chambers Global Guide 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016 – Corporate Investigations (South Africa)
- Best Lawyers® 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016 – Criminal Defense (South Africa)
- ACFE SA Awards 2016 – Contribution to the Anti-Fraud Profession in South Africa (Advocacy) of the Year Award

qualifications

- BProc (University of Cape Town)
- LLB (University of Cape Town)
- ISO37001 Anti-Bribery Management System - Lead Implementer
- Admitted as an advocate of the High Court of South Africa

