

FISA to attend to matters such as drafting your will or setting up a trust.

“Fiduciary services are delivered in a very complex legal and practical framework, and having legal, financial planning or accounting qualifications and experience do not necessarily mean that a person is properly equipped to operate in this area. By using a FISA member, you are assured of a high standard of fiduciary care and competence.”

He says FISA does this by:

- Holding members accountable to a code

ethics, which is based on the principles of integrity and honesty. It also requires members to be honest, objective, to think and act independently, deal with conflicts of interest, be knowledgeable and competent, maintain confidentiality, and be financially stable.

- Having a disciplinary code and committee to deal with malpractice by a member.
- Requiring members to keep their knowledge up to date by complying with a continuing professional

development (CPD) programme.

Van Vuren says that FISA is by far the largest body organising and representing fiduciary professionals in South Africa.

“FISA is respected and listened to by the authorities. We play an ongoing, active role in shaping legislation and subordinate regulation.”

He says FISA participated in drafting the regulations under the Financial Intelligence Centre Act (Fica) and the process to have the regulations under the Administration of Estates Act improved. On the basis of a written submission, the Davis Tax Committee in 2017 invited FISA to make a further oral submission on the proposed wealth tax.

FISA regularly liaises with the South African Revenue Service (SARS) to streamline processes with regard to deceased estate and trust tax compliance. It also liaises with the Master’s Offices countrywide to smooth processes and highlight service issues.

“FISA is often the first port of call for industry commentators and the media to canvass opinion on topical issues. FISA’s annual conference has become known as the event where experts, both academic and practitioners, gather to discuss industry issues and advance ideas.”

FISA’s objectives are designed to support members. They are:

