

A manifesto by Candice Padayachee, Director (Forensic) – KPMG Services (Pty)

The far reaching effects of fraud and corruption penetrating businesses and individuals, both globally and in South Africa, has had dire consequences on both economic and social development of society. The detrimental effects of fraud and corruption are especially severe on the poor, who are hardest hit by economic decline, most reliant on the provision of service delivery, and least capable of subsidising the additional costs associated with fraud and corruption.

In the current climate, it is a critical time for the forensic profession and fraud prevention has taken centre stage. The conduct, fieldwork, reports and testimony of fraud examiners have become the subject of public scrutiny. As forensic professionals, we have a greater understanding of the role we play in addressing the challenges of fighting fraud and corruption in society. We are a crucial line of defence in this battle. It is therefore imperative that as fraud examiners we ensure the highest of quality and ethical standards and strictest application of our tradecraft basics.

As a forensic professional with over 11 years' experience, I am passionate in fighting fraud and corruption both in the public and private sectors. I am an Admitted Attorney of the High Court of South Africa. Furthermore I have a Masters degree in Law (LLM). I believe that, with the support of my firm (KPMG), we can add value to the ACFE by contributing to the advancement of the forensic profession by sharing our experiences and lessons learnt, as well as our expertise and subject knowledge gathered over the years.

Should I be elected to the ACFE regional committee, I will focus on:

- Being an active member of the committee by providing insights, innovative ideas, mentorship and creating overall fraud and ethics awareness in the KZN region.
- Continually improving the standard of our education and training as the face of the typical fraudster evolves. Our education must also keep pace with developments in technology and law.
 - For regional training events, I volunteer the use of the my firm's, KPMG, training room and would welcome the opportunity to present at the training events
 - Continually advocating for maintaining independence and objectivity and raising the bar for professional, ethical standards and regulating the profession.
 - Sharing my legal and forensic expertise for the benefit of members of the ACFE.

I look forward to the opportunity to participate in the regional ACFE committee by leveraging the skills, experience and network that I have developed thus far. I would be pleased to serve in any capacity where I can add value.