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POPIA and Community Scheme Living

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The value of information and data has increased exponentially over the last decade. Some researchers have referred to information as 'the oil of the 21st Century'. As the value of information has evolved, the law regulating the economic use of personal information and data resources has also evolved.

Historically, the right to privacy, which is also enshrined in section 14 of the Constitution, was by the common law. The Protection of Personal Information Act (*"POPIA"*) heralds a dramatic change in the landscape of personal information protection and regulation in South Africa, with stringent obligations being imposed on the custodians of personal information.

With the POPIA "date of compliance" steadily approaching, our offices have been inundated with queries relating to the impact of POPIA on community schemes. This note seeks to address some of these questions.

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