

## HAMILTON CELE 4<sup>th</sup> ARMSA PRESIDENT 1999 -2001



The events that featured prominently during this period may be summarized as follows:

During 1999 ARMSA members elected its Executive Committee. In doing so it took into account both the racial & gender composition of its members as well as the citizens of this country. This was a very bold statement by ARMSA in view of the history of South Africa that still comeback to haunt us.

Whilst we were conscious of the separation of powers it was inevitable that the executive had to meet with the members of the Ministry of Justice & government. The purpose of these meetings was the betterment of service conditions for members of the Magistracy at large.

ARMSA proposed successfully the abolishment of the then three legged salary structure of our colleagues in the District Court.

ARMSA challenge the efficiency of the Magistrate Commission. A meeting was called to alleviate the problem.

ARMSA have also strived to negotiate better salaries. There still exists room for improvement in this field.

ARMSA also took part in the deliberations for the creation of a Commission whose task it would be to investigate the salaries & service conditions of the Magistracy.

During my period of tenure the car allowance for Regional Magistrates were re-introduced after an absence of several years.

During this era the Constitutional Court had delivered its decision in Van Rooyen (1). Although we had mixed feelings as to the content of the judgment, it will always stand out as a milestone for Judicial Independence in the South African context.

During this time ARMSA & JOASA also have several meetings with the purpose to find common ground. This endeavor however did not realize.

My tenure was also the end of an era wherein which the Executive of ARMSA was vested in the Natal Region.

Long live ARMSA!!!  
Hamilton Cele  
October 2005