

Delekile Jack Klaas

Resume (Summary)

Delekile Jack Klaas, is a seasoned public sector professional with experience that covers a broad spectrum of the public service with depth and breadth of experience being at senior leadership. Currently the Regional Commissioner for Western Cape Region of the Department of Correctional Services (DCS), Mr Klaas has a Diploma in Jurisprudence (NQF Level 6) with the University of Western Cape, a Crime prevention Management Certificate (NQF Level 7), with Graduate School of Public Development Management Witwatersrand University.

Mr. Klaas started working 1989 at the UWC SRC Resource Centre as a Resource Centre Assistant. This is where he assisted students doing Political Science and Sociology with relevant material

With almost 30 years of Public Sector experience, Mr Klaas strength lies in defining, developing and execution of initiatives that require integration from a social, political and economic points of view, thus achieving sustainable transformation in institutions and people in general. The early years of his career, focused on providing social re-integration of returning exiles through socio economic support in form of financial assistance, career counselling, facilitation of bursaries, and student placements to name a few.

His previous role as an Executive Director for the Bursary Council of South Africa and as Director, Student Financial Aid Office – University of the North (Now Limpopo), at the dawn of the South African democracy, provided him with ability to mobilise resources, co-ordinate initiatives and account to various stakeholders such as Government and Donor Agencies thus contributing to political stability in the country. One of the achievements in this role was the development of a policy on Higher Education Financing.

Mr Klaas has held a number of very senior positions in the Public Sector; he was the Special adviser to the Premier of Free State during 2009 to 2011. A career and success focused individual, Mr Klaas has a career that has progressed to senior levels in government, having worked in positions of Deputy Director, Chief Director, Deputy Director General as Head of Department in the Department of Public Safety Security and Liaison which later incorporated Transport and became the Department of Police and Transport in the Free State Province.

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Currently Klaas heads the Western Cape Region of the DCS, a role that requires transformation of the Department, Officials, Inmates / Remand Detainees and the Community. Currently the Region has 42 Correctional facilities and an average of 27 000 inmates and probationers. Of importance in this role is the ability to transform the lives of people and provide them with a second chance in life. The ability to mobilise society to participate in the social re-integration of offenders, and professionalization of employees. Since taking over the Region, Staff morale in the region has drastically improved, resulting in the region winning more than 60% of Excellence awards of the Department as well as Choir Competitions Awards for 2014.

Critical to this role is providing strategic leadership and management of all resources in the Region, including financial and physical resources.

Delekile prides himself in his ability to utilise his depth of management experience and legal orientation for transforming organisations and people for the better. His understanding of Strategy, Governance, Financial Management, Public Administration, Political landscape, Government and stakeholder relationships has ensured that he provides excellent leadership in all his senior engagements.