



VETUS SCHOLA  
*"Legends Endure"*

# Newsletter

LEGENDS ENDURE

JANUARY-MARCH

Q1 ISSUE 2026



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**VETUS SCHOLA**  
*"Legends Endure"*



Do you recognise the background in the front page?



## LEGENDS OF THE MONTH

### JANUARY



Jason Gordon

Jason is an exceptionally hardworking and dedicated.

He consistently demonstrates a strong work ethic and a positive attitude. Jason never shies away from a challenge. He is a highly valued member of the team.

### FEBRUARY



Thamsanqa Mkhize

He demonstrates dedication, frequently going the extra mile to meet and surpass client expectations. His proactive approach, reliability and integrity make him an individual the company can trust and rely upon.

### MARCH



Anwill Gordon

Anwill has a solid arrest record and is a diligent hard worker. Despite his relatively short time with Armed Response, we are very impressed by his performance. Keep it up! You are holding Vetus Schola's name high.



Lee-Roy Hendriks

He is highly dedicated and customer focused team member who consistently goes the extra mile to ensure our clients receive outstanding service. He is always willing to step up and take on additional responsibilities.



Albert Mgoqo

Albert is a very reliable and trustworthy officer. Since his deployment to the Le Creuset, we always receive possible feedback from the Client. He is always going the extra mile and a true asset to the company



Luyanda Makapela

Thank you for always being so incredibly reliable. In a fast-paced environment, knowing we can always count on you to show up, deliver consistently, and be there when it matters most is truly special.



## LEGENDS OF THE MONTH

JANUARY

FEBRUARY

MARCH



**Shantel Opperman**

Her knowledge of all the residents is fantastic, she is helpful and friendly, going the extra mile. If I am out of office, Shantel can handle all incidents and assist all the residents in a professional manner. She is absolutely an asset to the company.



**Tagmodien Herman**

Tagmodien always conducts his duties in a friendly and professional manner. He is a people's person and always treats residents, visitors and employees with a high level of respect. He's a true ambassador for the company and Client.



**Graham Hendricks**

Graham joined us in 2019 as a controller and quickly transitioned to our technical team with ease. He's settled in brilliantly, works seamlessly with everyone, and is always friendly and professional with clients.

## Q1 LONG SERVICE LEGENDS



15

**Nceba Mkhona**  
Security Officer  
01 Oct 2010

14

**Eugene Thomas**  
GM Support Services  
13 Sep 2011

14

**Mbongeni Mhlanga**  
Security Officer  
01 Sep 2011

13

**Morne Sebonka**  
Area Manager  
12 Mar 2012

13

**Pathlyn Baatjes**  
Security Officer  
29 Nov 2012

13

**Jan Pienaar**  
Security Officer  
01 Feb 2013

12

**Mzikayise Lurwayi**  
Security Officer  
01 May 2013

12

**Riedewaan Agmat**  
Shift Commander  
23 Jul 2013

12

**Nokuvuma Rigala**  
Security Officer  
25 Jul 2013

12

**Mandla Gulwa**  
Security Officer  
30 Aug 2013

12

**David Fourie**  
Security Officer  
1 Dec 2013

12

**Sipho Mntanywa**  
Security Officer  
21 Dec 2013

12

**Willem Williams**  
Security Officer  
01 Feb 2014



## FROM THE EDITORS DESK

Legend News: Powering Through Q1 2026 – Legends in Action

Dear Legend Readers,

As we wrap up the first quarter of 2026 on this April day, the energy and commitment across Vetus Schola continue to shine brighter than ever. These past months (January to April) have been packed with decisive actions, smart technology at work, and the kind of teamwork that turns potential threats into success stories.

From swift vehicle recoveries and intercepted in Strand after an alert to ANPR hits leading to quick arrests of suspects linked to fraud in areas like Caledon and Hermanus, your vigilance has made a real difference. Teams boxed in vehicles, locked down scenes, and collaborated seamlessly with partners to get results fast. Add in K9 support, tactical responses, and proactive patrols, and it's clear: the Vetus Schola family is not just reacting, we're staying steps ahead.

We carried strong momentum from the festive season into the new year, supporting Drakenstein's Safer Festive Season operations with extra patrols, more visible officers and 24/7 readiness alongside SAPS, law enforcement, and the municipality. That collaborative spirit has carried through Q1, strengthening safety across Helderberg, Drakenstein, Paarl, Somerset West and beyond.

To our responders, control room heroes, technicians, K9 handlers, tactical units, and every support role: you are the heartbeat of these wins. Whether braving early morning alerts, installing the latest LPR/ANPR systems, monitoring NAVIC feeds, or handling calls that prevent crime before it escalates, the impact is felt in every safer street and reassured family.

In the words that still ring true:

'The strength of the team is each individual member. The strength of each member is the team.' — Phil Jackson

This captures us perfectly. Every alert handled, every prevention, every recovery builds on the last, creating stronger communities one shift at a time.

A huge thank you also goes to our clients, partners and community allies. Your trust fuels our expansion, more advanced tools, sharper training and an even wider reach in the months ahead.

Here's to an unstoppable rest of 2026.

Gratefully yours,  
The Editor





## SUCCESS STORIES

A tragic hit-and-run occurred in our area: a delivery bike rider was knocked over and seriously injured. The rider was in hospital receiving treatment.

The suspect vehicle failed to stop, failed to check on the victim and fled the scene. Thankfully, a quick-thinking bystander captured the registration number.

Our intelligence system check revealed no registered details linked to the vehicle, raising further concerns.

On Friday, 13 February 2026, one of our mobile units spotted the suspect vehicle. A BOLO was immediately issued to the A-Team, who located it at a well-known mall in the area.

SAPS was promptly informed and the scene was handed over to them for further investigation and action.

Huge shoutout and well done to the entire A-Team, the alert bystander and everyone involved in this swift response. Your vigilance helps keep our community safer, great teamwork!

Praying for the rider's full and speedy recovery.





## SUCCESS STORIES

### Early Bird catches the worm, I mean criminal

In the early hours of the morning at 04:08 on 18 March, an alert resident in the **Bridgewater neighbourhood** spotted three suspects attempting to break into her property and a house across the road. She immediately raised the alarm in the Vetus Schola Bridgewater community group.

Members responded without delay: H13, H4, and other residents joined the pursuit, sharing live location updates as the suspects fled. Thanks to this rapid, coordinated community effort:

One suspect was apprehended on the N2 near Burger King.

The second was caught in Gantz near Colibri.

(The third suspect's status is not specified in the report.)

Somerset West and Strand SAPS were notified and attended the scene. The captured suspects were officially taken into custody by Somerset West police.

This incident highlights the power of community vigilance combined with technology — particularly the Vetus Schola CCTV Bridgewater project, which continues to deter crime and supply vital evidence. Together with active residents and local Neighbourhood Watches, these efforts are helping create safer streets in Bridgewater and throughout the Helderberg area.



At approximately 03:40 19 March, the control room received a report from a resident about the **theft of a white twin-cam motorbike in the area**. A white bakkie was observed loading the bike and driving off; the caller provided a clear description and direction of travel.

The team responded instantly, broadcasting the details to response units. At 03:42 just minutes later H12 spotted the suspect vehicle and immediately gave pursuit, successfully cornering it at the end of Hillcrest Road. The suspects abandoned the bakkie (with the stolen motorbike still loaded in the back) and fled on foot towards the river. H4, H10, and H18 joined the foot search, but the individuals managed to evade capture in the vicinity.

During the chase, the suspects hit a curb, damaging the front left tyre of their getaway vehicle.

This quick reaction prevented the theft from succeeding fully and recovered the stolen motorbike, demonstrating the effectiveness of rapid information sharing and on-the-ground response by the team and community members.





## SUCCESS STORIES

### WATCH THESE SUCCESS STORIES

On 6 February 2026, a **burglary was reported on Reservoir Road in the Bulties area of Somerset West**. The control room used their AI camera system to quickly identify and capture footage of a suspicious male entering and leaving the property shortly afterwards.

The footage was shared with Armed Response officers.

Three days later, on 9 February 2026 (Monday), a Senior Armed Response Officer recognised the same suspect walking in Somerset West, stopped him immediately, contacted SAPS, and handed him over for further investigation and processing.



On Monday, 9 February 2026, Rudi Groenewald from **AfriForum HelderbergKom** spotted two suspicious males armed with firearms on the N2 highway and immediately requested backup.

The A-Team responded swiftly, pursued the suspects through the veld (bushy/open terrain), and successfully arrested one of them; the second suspect escaped.

A search of the arrested suspect recovered a replica firearm (blank gun). He was first taken to Lwandi Police Station, then transferred to Somerset West Police Station (correct jurisdiction), and handed over to SAPS for further investigation.

This incident occurred just three days after the earlier burglary suspect handover in Somerset West (on the same date, 9 February 2026).



The A-Team received urgent intelligence of an **armed business robbery at a liquor store** in the Strand area around 18:10. Four males robbed the outlet of liquor and cash before fleeing in a getaway vehicle.

A vigilant witness noted and reported the vehicle's registration details, which were instantly uploaded into the group's Intelligence ANPR (Automatic Number Plate Recognition) system. A BOLO (Be On the Lookout) alert was broadcast across the network. The team immediately mobilised, coordinating with on-the-ground partners, SAPS, and Traffic Departments to widen the BOLO coverage. Leveraging the rapid ANPR tracking and strong inter-agency collaboration, the vehicle was successfully located and stopped safely. All four suspects were detained on the spot, and the stolen liquor and cash were recovered directly from the vehicle. Additional related arrests took place shortly afterwards.



Give us a follow on Facebook. We would love to have you as part of the family.



## OFFICERS ATTENDANCE RAFFLES

At Vetus Schola Group, reliability is the cornerstone of what we do, showing up every shift, ready to protect our communities 24/7. Today, we're proud to shine a spotlight on our officers who have demonstrated outstanding attendance throughout the year!

These dedicated Legends have gone above and beyond, ensuring seamless coverage and unwavering commitment. As a token of our appreciation, they've each received a well-deserved Certificate of Excellence in Attendance.



Latshetse



Markgraff



K.Kopo



Shakiera Julies



Aqeela Rhoda



Olaatjies



K.Kolisang



C.Lukas



Z Mbendeni



M.Smit



Luis Seculu



## GENERAL NEWS

### Vetus Schola & SAPS Teaming Up for Safer Communities in Kleinzee!

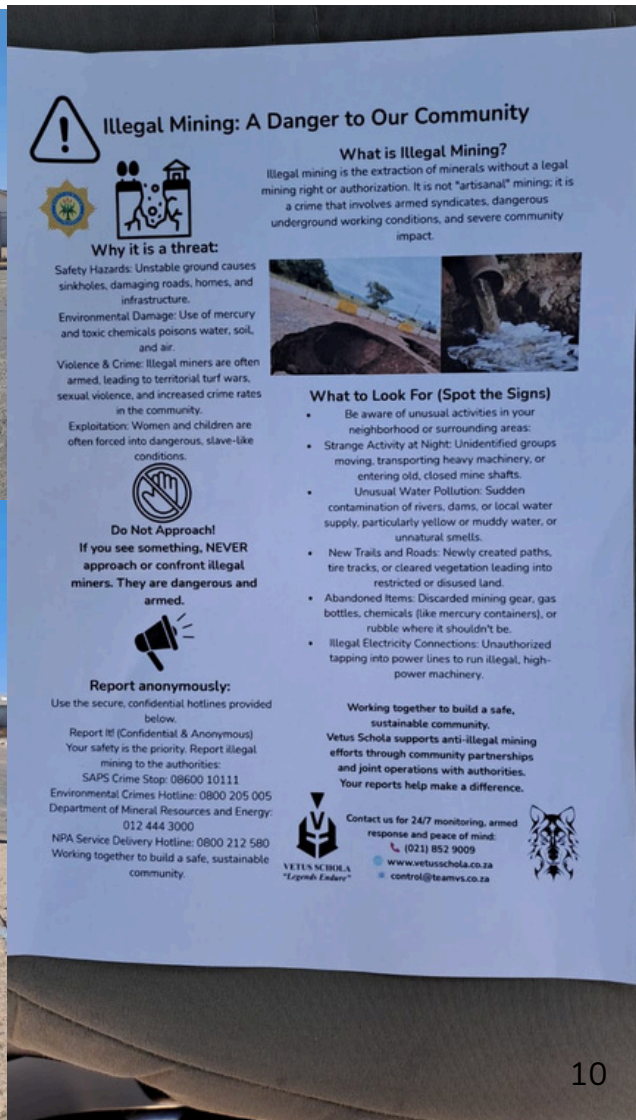
At the VCP in Kleinzee, our team joined forces with SAPS Kleinzee to distribute important pamphlets educating residents about the dangers of illegal mining (zama zamas) and how to spot & safely report suspicious activities.

Key messages shared:

- Recognize signs like unusual night activity, polluted water, new trails or illegal power hookups
- NEVER approach suspects, they can be armed and dangerous
- Report anonymously via trusted hotlines (SAPS Crime Stop: 08600 10111, Environmental Crimes: 0800 205 005, and more)

By working together with law enforcement and the community, we're helping prevent crime, protect the environment and build a safer Namaqualand. Your tip could make all the difference!

If you spot anything suspicious, report it.





## GENERAL NEWS

### Our new partners

In the competitive Helderberg property market, Tyson Properties continues to lead with professionalism, innovation, and a results-driven approach. With over 20 years in the industry and a national footprint of more than 450 professionals, the brand has built a reputation for delivering exceptional service, combining modern marketing with a strong people-first culture.

At a regional level, Tyson Properties Helderberg reflects this same standard of excellence through a young, dynamic, and highly motivated team. Based in Somerset West, the office has quickly established itself as a rising force in the local market, bringing fresh energy, collaboration, and a forward-thinking approach to property sales and rentals. Leigh Oberem is one of the original owners and shareholders of Tyson Properties Helderberg, making her an integral part of the company’s vision and growth.

A key part of this success is Leigh herself, a standout agent whose consistent performance has set her apart in 2025. She has ranked among the top agents in office for numerous months, earning recognition as a Silver Award winner—a reflection of her dedication, strong work ethic, and ability to deliver exceptional results.

As a Helderberg area specialist, Leigh provides valuable market insight and a personalised approach, helping clients confidently buy, sell, and rent. She is especially well known within The Huntsman Estate, where she is a preferred agent, particularly in the rental market, trusted for placing quality tenants efficiently.

**THINKING OF BUYING OR SELLING?**  
GIVE LEIGH OBEREM A CALL TODAY!

+27 79 521 3592

leigh.oberem@tysonprop.co.za

**NAMED ONE OF HELDERBERGS TOP SELLING AND TRUSTED AGENTS!**

Beyond real estate, Leigh has immersed herself in the local community. As a proud member of BNI, she actively collaborates with local professionals and organisations such as Generations, building meaningful connections that extend beyond property.

Her involvement in community initiatives—including assisting in the planning of school padel events—highlights her passion for making a positive impact.

Her success is built not only on results, but on strong client relationships, attention to detail, and a genuine passion for property. Leigh continues to be a trusted name in Helderberg real estate and an invaluable asset to Tyson Properties.



## GENERAL NEWS

Big shoutout and THANK YOU to Helderberg High School for inviting Vetus Schola to be part of your awesome Swimming Gala this year!

What an incredible day filled with non-stop energy, school spirit and loads of gees! It was an honour to join the fun, support the swimmers and be part of such a vibrant community event.

To all the learners, teachers, parents and organisers, you made it unforgettable. Thank you for including us!

Here's to more great moments in the Helderberg community.





## GENERAL NEWS

**YOU ARE INVITED!**



VETUS SCHOLA  
"Legends Endure"



Date: Saturday, 31 January 2026  
Time: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Venue: Helderrand Road, Somerset West  
Public Open Space

Watch our professional K9 dogs strut their skills in exciting demonstrations!  
Live mic & speaker commentary by Cheyenne – ask questions & engage!  
Info session on our community's security involvement & advanced camera systems/services.

Food truck, coffee and cold drinks will be available

K-9 UNIT



What an incredible day in Somerset West we had! Under brilliant blue skies at Helderrand Road's public open space, Vetus Schola's elite K-9 unit delivered a great showcase.

Our expertly trained K-9s demonstrated their everyday real-world skills with precision from detecting contraband and tracking suspects, to rock-solid protection in high-risk situations, proving exactly how they defend lives and property every single day.

Cheyenne provided live mic commentary, answering questions and diving into our community's security solutions, including advanced camera systems.

Did you know? We offer professional training services to the public. Bring us your dogs, we'll transform them into a completely obedient companion that's ready and able to protect you and your family when it matters most.



VETUS SCHOLA  
"Legends Endure"





## HR DEPARTMENT

### Representing the Company at All Times

In the security industry, professionalism doesn't end when the shift does. Every employee is a visible representative of the company; whether on duty, in uniform or even outside of work.

The way we conduct ourselves directly influences how clients, partners and the public perceive our brand.

### Why Representation Matters

- Trust and credibility: Security services are built on reliability. Clients expect employees to embody integrity and vigilance at all times.
- Company reputation: A single interaction—positive or negative—can shape how people view the entire organization.
- Industry standards: Security professionals are held to higher expectations of discipline, discretion, and respect.

### Key Behaviors That Reflect the Company

- Professional appearance: Uniforms should be worn with pride, kept neat, and compliant with company standards.
- Communication: Polite, clear, and respectful language reinforces professionalism.
- Conduct off-duty: Even outside of work, employees should avoid behavior that could undermine the company's reputation.
- Social media presence: Online activity should reflect responsibility and avoid content that could damage trust.

### The Bigger Picture

Representing the company well is not just about following rules—it's about embodying the values of safety, respect, and accountability. Each employee plays a role in building long-term client relationships and strengthening the company's standing in the industry.





## SAFETY AND SECURITY TIPS

While national trends indicate some encouraging declines in violent crime categories (such as murder reductions reported in recent SAPS releases), opportunistic incidents like residential break-ins, vehicle thefts or theft from homes and businesses can still occur, especially during busier travel times, school holidays or as families settle into new routines. Our 24/7 armed response teams, advanced LPR/ANPR systems, monitored alarms, K9 units and tactical support remain fully operational to detect, deter and respond effectively. Here are some practical, year-round tips to help safeguard you, your loved ones, and your property as we move forward:

### Home Security Tips (Especially When Away on Holiday)

- Make your home look occupied. Use timers for lights, radios, or TVs. Ask a trusted neighbour to collect mail and check on the property.
- Test your alarm system. Ensure it's armed, batteries are charged (load-shedding proof) and your armed response provider (like us!) has updated contact details.
- Secure all entry points. Lock doors/windows, activate burglar bars, and close garage doors. Avoid leaving keys in hidden spots.
- Don't advertise your absence. Avoid posting holiday plans or photos on social media in real-time.
- Exterior lighting & visibility. Keep outside lights on or use motion sensors to deter intruders.

### Personal Safety Tips

- Be aware of your surroundings. Stay alert in crowded places, malls, or ATMs. Avoid distractions like phones.
- Travel in groups. Especially at night or in unfamiliar areas. Safety in numbers!
- Protect your belongings. Keep bags close, wallets in front pockets, and never leave valuables visible in your car.
- Watch your drinks. At parties or events, never leave them unattended.
- Plan safe transport. Use trusted e-hailing services, verify details, and share your trip with someone.

### Vehicle & Road Safety Tips

- Hide valuables. Never leave items visible. Smash-and-grab incidents spike this season.
- Vehicle checks. Inspect tyres, brakes, fluids, and lights before long trips.
- Avoid driving impaired. Plan ahead with a designated driver or rideshare.
- Leave space. At traffic lights, keep a gap to maneuver if needed.
- Emergency kit. Carry water, a torch, reflective triangle and a charged phone.





## IMPORTANT CONTACT DETAILS

### Vetus Schola Group Contacts

Website: [www.vetusschola.co.za/](http://www.vetusschola.co.za/)

Helderberg / Somerset West Control Room: 021 852 9009 Email: [control@teamvs.co.za](mailto:control@teamvs.co.za)

Paarl / Wellington Control Room: 021 852 9009 Email: [paarlcontrol@teamvs.co.za](mailto:paarlcontrol@teamvs.co.za)

General enquiries: [corporate@vetusschola.co.za](mailto:corporate@vetusschola.co.za)

Vetus Schola provides 24/7 armed response, monitoring, LPR/ANPR systems, K9 units and more across these regions.

### CRISIS & MENTAL HEALTH

Suicide: 0800 567 567

Depression: 0800 121 314

Trauma Line: 0800 205 026

Mental Health: 011 234 4837

ADHD Helpline: 0800 554 433

Lifeline: 021 461 1113

AIDS Helpline: 0800 012 322

### ABUSE & CHILD SUPPORT

Rape Crisis: 021 447 9762

Assault/Gender Abuse: 0861 322 322

Childline SA: 116 / 0800 055 555

Child Emergency: 0800 123 123

### POLICE & CRIME

SAPS: 10111

Flying Squad: 10111

Crime Stop: 0860 010 111

Missing Persons: 021 918 3512 / 3449 / 3452

### MEDICAL, RESCUE & FIRE

Ambulance: 10177

Emergency (Cell): 112

Fire & Rescue: 107 (Landline) / 021 480 7700 (Cell)

Disaster Centre: 080 911 4357

Sea Rescue: 021 449 3500

Mountain Rescue: 021 948 9900

Poison Info: 0861 555 777

### UTILITIES & SERVICES

Electricity: 0860 103 089 / SMS 31220

Water/Blocked Drains: 0860 103 089 / SMS 31373

Road Closures/Delays: 0800 656 463

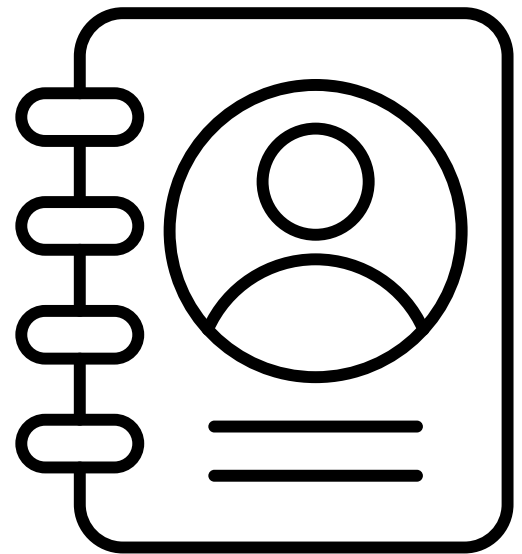
### WEATHER & CITY INFO

CT Weather Office: 021 934 0749 / 0831

Weatherline: 083 123 0500 Safe Schools: 0800 454 647

CoCT Emergency: 107 / 021 480 7700

Western Cape Gov: 0860 142 142 (Weekdays)



### City of Cape Town Fire Stations (Selected):

Wynberg: 021 444 9621

Roeland St: 021 444 8963

Atlantis: 021 444 4260

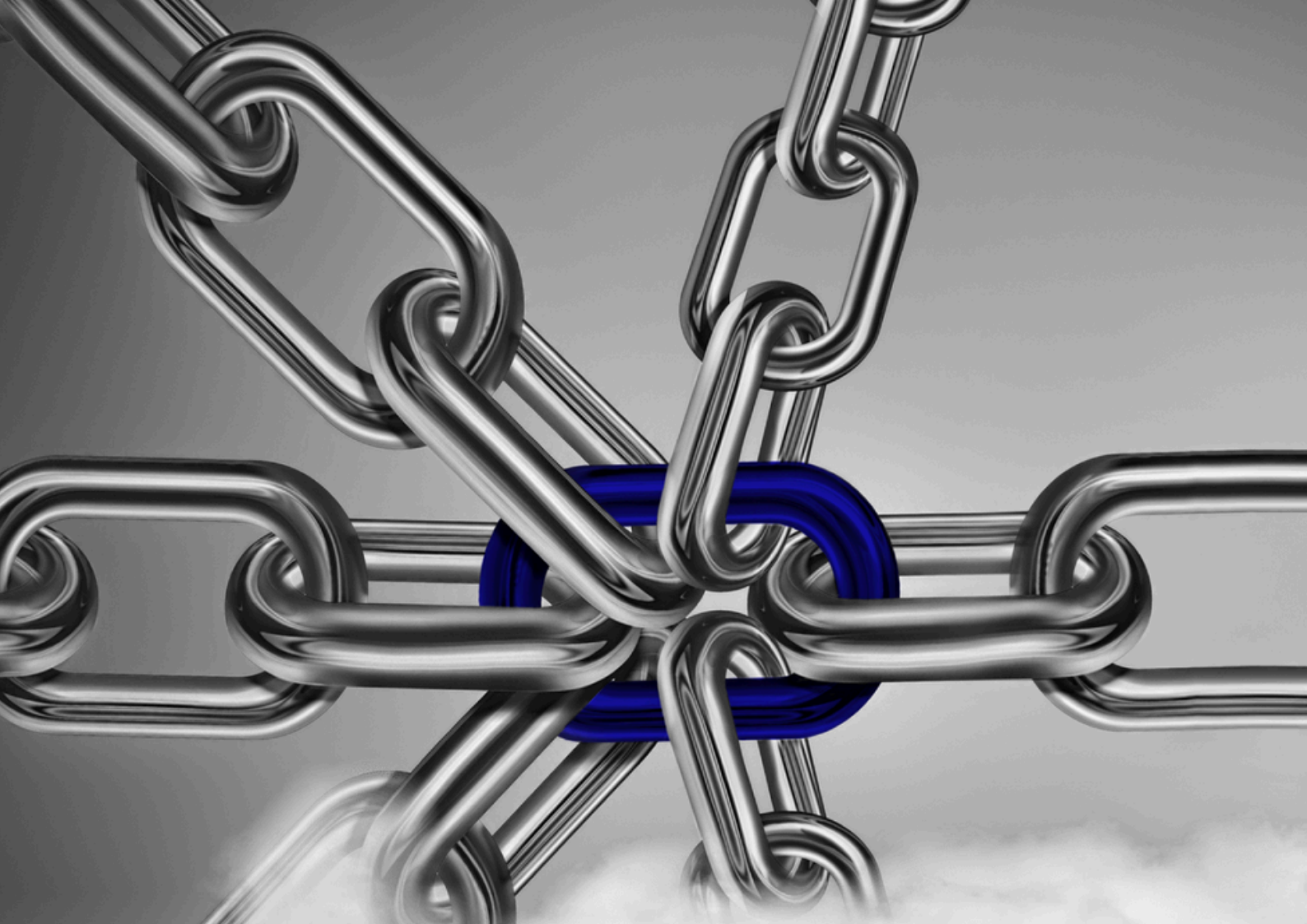
Milnerton: 021 400 6949

Bellville: 021 444 8279

Gugulethu: 021 444 5481

Mitchells Plain: 021 444 3085

Strand: 021 444 7600



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