



OFFICE OF THE JUDGE PRESIDENT

GAUTENG DIVISION OF THE HIGH COURT OF SOUTH AFRICA

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E-mail: NWalkinshaw@judiciary.org.za

17 March 2020

**To: all Judges, Court staff, Practitioners and members of the public:
(Gauteng Division of the High Court, Pretoria and Johannesburg)**

URGENT DIRECTIVE IN RESPECT OF RESTRICTING ACCESS TO COURT IN LIGHT OF COVID 19

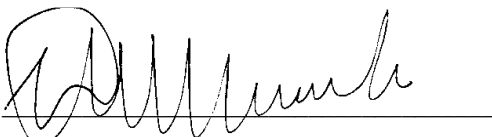
The Directive issued on 16 March 2020 is amended and replaced with the following directives which will apply with immediate effect until further notice:

1. Save for Urgent Court matters, Judges and staff will deal only with matters that are already enrolled for hearing; provided that parties may agree to postpone matters (including unopposed matters) that have been enrolled during this period. In such event, parties must alert the relevant Judge's Secretary of any agreed postponement as a matter of urgency.
2. Parties in matters that have been postponed under this Directive may approach the Office of the Judge President for an expedited new hearing date. Requests in this regard may be directed to NWalkinshaw@judiciary.org.za for matters in Johannesburg and to TMotswasele@judiciary.org.za for matters in Pretoria.
3. No practitioner/messenger/member of the public may enter the Court building for purposes of issuing new process save for matters that are prescribing and for Urgent Court matters. In as far as the issuing of new process in all other matters is concerned, the Parties are required to email all Notices of Motion/Summonses to JHBCaselines@judiciary.org.za in respect of matters in Johannesburg and to PTACaselines@judiciary.org.za for matters in Pretoria. The Registrar will stamp and sign the relevant pages, create the case on CaseLines followed by an invitation to the Parties for case access. Parties are directed to disclose the email addresses and contact numbers of all the attorneys/Parties involved in the case.



4. In respect of matters that have already been initiated by way of a paper file (rather than Caselines), practitioners must correspond with the Registrar's Office by email via the relevant email address referred to in paragraph 3, for directions as to the filing of all further notices, pleadings, heads of argument etc.
5. Enrolment of new matters may only be done via Caselines. The following email addresses are dedicated for this purpose:
 - 5.1 Unopposed Motions - JHBUEnrolment@judiciary.org.za / PTAUEnrolment@judiciary.org.za
 - 5.2 Opposed Motions – JHBOEnrolment@judiciary.org.za / PTAOEnrolment@Judiciary.org.za
6. Counsel are advised not to attend Judges' chambers for purposes of introductions. All introductions are suspended. Judges will not shake hands with any practitioners.
7. Judges who are not scheduled for sittings in Court are required to work from home.
8. When a Judge is working from home, s/he should make a determination, based on the nature of the work to be done, whether his/her Secretary may also work from home. In that event, the Judge President must be advised accordingly, and Judges' Secretaries must remain available and accessible to carry out whatever duties may be required from home, including monitoring and responding to emails, maintaining telephone contact with practitioners etc.
9. Individual case managements should be conducted by teleconference/Skype per arrangement between the parties and the appointed Judge.
10. General Court staff must continue to report for work to ensure that the general work of the Court is not compromised pending directives and guidelines from the Department of Public Service and Administration (DPSA).

Sincerely



D MLAMBO

**JUDGE PRESIDENT OF THE GAUTENG DIVISION OF THE
HIGH COURT OF SOUTH AFRICA**

