

OFFICE OF THE ACTING JUDGE PRESIDENT HIGH COURT OF SOUTH AFRICA, GAUTENG PROVINCIAL DIVISION, PRETORIA

Gauteng High Court Building, Cnr. Madiba & Paul Kruger Strs, Room 7.15, Seventh Floor Tel. (012) 315 7572/(012) 492 6811– E-mail: <u>AMbelani@judiciary.org.za</u>

08 July 2022

To:

- 1. All Judges of the Gauteng Division of the High Court, Pretoria and Johannesburg
- 2. All Judiciary Heads of the Regional and District Courts, Gauteng Division
- 3. Court staff, Professional Bodies, Practitioners and members of the public

EXPLANATORY NOTE ABOUT THE REVISED DIRECTIVES

1. DIRECTIVE 2 OF 2022 - THE CONSOLIDATED DIRECTIVE ON COURT OPERATIONS; AND

2. REVISED DIRECTIVE 1 OF 2021 - REGULATING THE CASE MANAGEMENT AND ENROLMENT OF CIVIL TRIALS

1. The revisions to the two revised Directives circulated today have been made to cater for the substantial changed operational circumstances of the Gauteng Division with effect from the beginning of the third term of 2022 (i.e., 18 July 2022). A great deal remains the same and your attention is directed to the substantive changes which have been effected.

Directive 2 of 2022: The Consolidated Directive on Court operations

- 2. PART A, Paras 1-17 deal with the regulation of the default position regarding physical hearing and video-link hearings, and optional flexibility in those arrangements.
- 3. The COURT ONLINE System becomes the exclusive portal for the issue of process and replaces CASELINES at the initial stages whereafter the documentation for hearings are automatically transposed from COURT ONLINE into CASELINES in format already familiar to everyone.
- 4. The Directives regulating the Family Court in the Johannesburg seat were previously circulated and are now incorporated herein (Paras 169 -197)
- 5. The Civil Trial Roll procedure (para 76) is refined to make clear that the practice notice which is an absolute precondition for an allocation must be filed with the office of the DJP not earlier than 7 days and not later than 5 days before the set-down date.

Revised Directive 1 of 2021

6. Chapter 8 dealing with the Special Interlocutory Court has been revised to achieve clarity about its scope, especially regarding cases that belong in this court and those

which belong in the ordinary unopposed court. The Court is available to hear matters in trials applications and appeals where an adversary fails to comply with a procedural requirement and thereby delays the progress of a matter to a hearing. Also, this court will hear both unopposed and opposed matters.

7. Otherwise, the substantive provisions remain the same, save for the elimination of superannuated topics.

Yours Faithfully

A.P. LEDWABA ACTING JUDGE PRESIDENT GAUTENG DIVISION OF THE HIGH COURT OF SOUTH AFRICA Digitally transmitted therefore unsigned