



**OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY JUDGE PRESIDENT**

(HIGH COURT OF SOUTH AFRICA, GAUTENG DIVISION, JOHANNESBURG)  
OFFICE 1210

Telephone number: 011 335 0116/011 335 0162 / 011 335 0163

Fax number: (011) 335 0219

e-mail address: [Secretarydj@judiciary.org.za](mailto:Secretarydj@judiciary.org.za) / [LTulleken@judiciary.org.za](mailto:LTulleken@judiciary.org.za)

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**NOTICE**

TO:

1. Judges of the Gauteng Division, Johannesburg
2. Chief Registrar, Gauteng Division, Johannesburg
3. Legal Practice Council – Gauteng
4. Law Society of South Africa
5. Gauteng Family Law Forum
6. Gauteng Attorneys Association
7. Pretoria Attorneys Association
8. Johannesburg Attorneys Association
9. West Rand Attorneys Association
10. South African Black Women in Law
11. National Association of Democratic Lawyers
12. Black Lawyers Association
13. South African Women Lawyers Association
14. South African Medical Malpractice Lawyers Association
15. Personal Injury Plaintiff Lawyers Association
16. South African Medico-Legal Association
17. Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, Pretoria and Johannesburg
18. Office of the State Attorneys, Pretoria and Johannesburg
19. Solicitor General
20. Office of the Family Advocate, Pretoria and Johannesburg
21. Legal Aid South Africa
22. Johannesburg Society of Advocates

23. **Pretoria Society of Advocates**
24. **Gauteng Society of Advocates**
25. **Pan African Bar Association of South Africa**
26. **General Council of the Bar of South Africa**
27. **National Bar Council of South Africa**
28. **South African Bar Association**
29. **National Forum of Advocates**
30. **North Gauteng Association of Advocates**
31. **Church Square Association of Advocates**
32. **Advocates for Transformation**
33. **Legal Division of the Department of Health: Gauteng**
34. **Legal Division of the Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation**
35. **Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development**
36. **Legal Services - Gauteng Provincial Department of Education**
37. **Gauteng Society of Advocates**

DATE : 27 October 2022

RE : **PRIORITY OF COURTS**

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1. In order to facilitate an efficient dispatch of work in the various motion courts it is necessary that an order of precedence apply. In those instances, where counsel may properly take two or more briefs on a single day and this be obliged to appear before several judges on that day, the rule shall be that the court rolls as listed below rank in priority.
2. Counsel shall be expected to respect the rules of precedence as set out.
  - (1) The Family Court has precedence over the Opposed Motion Court and all other motion courts.
  - (2) The Opposed Motion Court has precedence over all other motion courts.
  - (3) The Settlements Court
  - (4) The Special Interlocutory Courts (the senior of the two judges takes precedence)
  - (5) The General Unopposed Motion Courts (the three judges take precedence in order of seniority)

(6) The Case Management Court (a video –link court)

NOTE:

Counsel must not compromise any opposed matter being heard at the arranged or stipulated time and no excuses shall be acceptable. Judges shall not grant indulgences and shall not be left to wait. If the risk of a clash is likely, counsel must choose which brief to surrender.

In courts where an Acting Judge is presiding and self-evidently there is no obvious judicial seniority ranking the Acting Judges will rank after the judge or judges and if there are more than one acting judge, the ranking of the Acting Judges shall be their surnames in alphabetical order.

This Directive takes effect immediately.

*Dictated by the Deputy Judge President  
Electronically transmitted, therefore no signature*

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**ROLAND SUTHERLAND  
DEPUTY JUDGE PRESIDENT**