



**OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL COURT PRESIDENT, REGIONAL DIVISION MPUMALANGA.**

PRIVATE BAGX 11207, 17 BESTER STREET, NELSPRUIT, 1200.  
TEL : (013)753- 6246 FAX (013)752-7175 E-MAIL: naengelbrecht@justice.gov.za

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ENQUIRY: N A ENGELBRECHT  
26 MARCH 2020

**SUBJECT: CASE FLOW MANAGEMENT DIRECTIVES / COVID19 LOCKDOWN 27 MARCH 2020-16 APRIL 2020/REGIONAL DIVISION MPUMALANGA**

**INTRODUCTION**

In light of the President's recent announcement, your attention is drawn to the following:

In terms of the Government Notice dated 12 September 1997 No 18276 Vol 387 and with specific reference to section 1 (i) the Essential Services Committee gave Notice that the services required for the functioning of Courts is an essential service.

All Regional Magistrates remain on official duty and can be called upon at any given time unless official leave has been requested, approved and recommended. At our larger seats namely; Emalahleni, Middelburg, Mbombela, Middelburg, Evander, Secunda, Ermelo and Mhala all Regional Magistrates should be in attendance daily to ensure swift movement of litigants by at least 11h00 daily where after you can depart home. Should the need arise to go out on circuit: Delmas, Belfast, Mashishing, Graskop, Bethal, Balfour, Amsterdam, Amersfoort, kindly revert soonest.

Following a Stakeholders Meeting today the following directives are issued:

**CIVIL MATTERS:**

- No trials will be conducted during the lockdown period
- Only urgent applications and ex-parte applications that cannot pend till 16/04/2020 will be attended too.
- Where possible new trial dates can be determined.
- Herewith the list of civil Regional Magistrates and contact details:

- Mr Ball cell no: 082 563 5168
- Ms La Marque cell no: 083 555 5269
- Ms Dathoo cell no: 084 414 4444
- Ms Greyvenstein cell no: 079 895 5379
- Ms Theron cell no: 082 377 3623
- Mr Moletsane cell no: 082 569 3992
- Mr Khumalo cell no: 082 442 5974
- Mr Mphekgwane cell no: 066 187 8416 (Registrar)

#### **CRIMINAL MATTERS:**

- **NO trials will be conducted unless with prior notice by all litigants concerned and the approval and recommendation of the Regional Court President, Mpumalanga.**
- **Accused on bail who do not attend court:**
- Kindly endorse the charge sheet with specific reference to this lockdown period.
- If a warrant of arrest is issued, consider holding same over to a date after 16/04/2020.
- All trial and partly- heard trials are to be postponed to a date after 16 April 2020.
- Where possible Regional Magistrate must allocate trial dates and or possible available dates.

#### **ACCUSED IN DETENTION:**

**Accused persons who are detained will not appear physically in court, unless exceptional circumstances exist e.g.**

- Section 49G of the Correctional Services Act, 111 of 1998.
- Section 62 F of the Correctional Services Act, 111 of 1998.
- **Sentenced Detainees:** No sentenced detainees will be transferred from Detention Centres to Courts. The Department of Correctional Services will arrange for the collection of J7's of said persons.
- **Remand detainees:**  
As per the arrangement the South African Police Services will arrange to collect the J7's and forward same to the relevant Department of Correctional Services detention centre/s.
- The office of the Chief Magistrate has agreed to avail assistance and the resident District Court Magistrates will assist with the postponement of Regional Court rolls at the respective circuit seats.
- The Department of Justice / Mr Maseko, Acting Director Court Services will avail the contact detail of all the Court Managers in Mpumalanga in order to ensure effect is given to the aforesaid.

**CIRCUIT COURTS:**

- Every effort will be made to obtain assistance from the resident District Court Magistrates to assist with the postponement of Regional Court matters.
- Where the District Courts are strained the relevant Regional Magistrate will attend to his/her/their own circuit court rolls.

**In conclusion**

The Regional Director of Finance, Ms C Shakwane has assured us that the cleaning services will be made available. Bulk alcohol-based sanitizers have been ordered and have already arrived. Same will be dispatched by tomorrow 27<sup>th</sup> of March 2020 for daily use at all courts.

Signed

  
NA ENGELBRECHT

REGIONAL COURT PRESIDENT

MPUMALANGA