

OFFICE OF THE ACTING DEPUTY JUDGE-PRESIDENT POTTERILL HIGH COURT OF SOUTH AFRICA, GAUTENG DIVISION, PRETORIA

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21 August 2020

- 1. Ms. T. Ledwaba: Civil Trials, Registrar
- 2. Chief Registrar of the High Court Pretoria
- 3. Legal Practice Council Gauteng
- 4. Law Society of South Africa
- 5. Johannesburg Society of Advocates
- 6. Pan African Bar Association of South Africa
- 7. Gauteng Family Law Forum
- 8. Gauteng Attorneys Association
- 9. Pretoria Attorneys Association
- 10. Johannesburg Attorneys Association
- 11. West Rand Attorneys Association
- 12. General Council of the Bar of South Africa
- 13. National Bar Council of South Africa
- 14. National Forum of Advocates
- 15. Pretoria Society of Advocates
- 16. North Gauteng Association of Advocates
- 17. Church Square Association of Advocates
- 18. Advocates for Transformation
- 19. Black Lawyers Association
- 20. National Association of Democratic Lawyers
- 21. Office of the State Attorney, Pretoria and Johannesburg
- 22. Office of the Family Advocate, Pretoria and Johannesburg
- 23. Legal Aid South Africa
- 24. Gauteng Society of Advocates

CIVIL TRIAL MATTERS OF 18-21 AUGUST 2020 WHICH WERE NOT ALLOCATED

Unfortunately the amount of civil trials in relation to the amount of available Judges has led to the fact that many matters have not been allocated this week.

In next week a particularised schedule setting out the dates to which matters have been postponed will be circulated to the practitioners.

This Office foresees that the roll of this term will be a 100 strong a day which will result in matters not being allocated.

This Office will increase the number of matters allocated to Judges per day and is also attempting to secure Acting Judges to alleviate the high volume.

Practitioners are again reminded that all matters that are not allocated on the Monday are rolled over to the following day.

The office of the Acting Deputy Judge-President feels the need to express her gratitude for the many offers from the professions to act *pro bono* as Judges on the civil trial roll. The lists provided are jealously guarded and will be utilised.

This term this office has run into logistical problems in that, if I am lucky, I only have 1 or 2 secretaries to assist these *pro bono* judges. In the virtual world these secretaries are essential to set up the virtual hearings and upload the matters, if not already done, and ensure that the orders are uploaded.

Furthermore, on the list, very few candidates were available in August.

I have approached the Judge-President to in the fourth term enlarge our capacity pertaining to secretaries and he has undertaken to do so. Most candidates on the list are also available in the fourth terms, so hopefully we will get through the rolls.

In this term there has been many physical hearings and many 2-5 day trials running. This week we had 5 running reducing the amount of Judges

considerably, so the perception that only default judgements are allocated is incorrect.

Once again, thank you very much!!

Regards

(ELECTRONICALLY GENERATED, NOT SIGNED) S. POTTERILL OFFICE OF THE ACTING DEPUTY JUDGE-PRESIDENT GAUTENG DIVISION PRETORIA

CC: The Honourable Judge-President Mlambo

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