

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH-AFRICA THE HONOURABLE JUDGE DS FOURIE

HIGH COURT OF SOUTH AFRICA GAUTENG DIVISION P O Box 442, PRETORIA

TO: ALL PRACTITIONERS

4 November 2021

IN RE: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE JUDGE PRESIDENT'S DIRECTIVE
DATED 11 JUNE 2021 FOR THE URGENT COURT OF 5 NOVEMBER 2021
(16:00) TO 12 NOVEMBER 2021 (16:00) BEFORE JUDGE FOURIE AND
JUDGE NGOBESE.

- All applications which had already been enrolled by 12:00 on Thursday 4
 November 2021 (when the roll closed) are indicated on the roll for Urgent
 Applications. Separate rolls will later be distributed for Judge Fourie and Judge
 Ngobese after the allocation of matters had been finalised.
- 2. All applications should have already been uploaded on Caselines as required in terms of par. 172 183 of the JP's Directive of 11 June 2021. If an application has not been filed, i.e. fully uploaded, by 12:00 on Thursday 4 November 2021 (when the roll closed, and subject to the degrees of urgency), the application may not be heard and may be struck off the roll (Practice Directive, Annexure "A" to 13.24, par [4], sub par 3, p H2-139). Papers which have not been properly indexed and paginated also run the risk of being struck off the roll.
- 3. <u>In all matters</u> (opposed and unopposed) <u>a Practice Note as well as Heads of Argument</u> must also be served and filed (on Caselines only and <u>not</u> to be sent to the Judge's secretary) by all parties concerned as one of the alternative electronic means. The application will then be adjudicated by means of an oral hearing, <u>unless there is a written indication that it will not be</u>

<u>necessary.</u> Oral hearings will be conducted via Microsoft Teams, subject to a time limitation, if necessary.

- 4. Failure to file Practice Note(s) and/or Heads of Argument timeously, will be an indication that there is no appearance for the party concerned and the application may then either be struck off the roll or be dealt with in the absence of such party.
- 5. The <u>practice note</u> must indicate at least the following (to assist the senior Judge to consider the matter, to do the allocations timeously and for both judges to be used in their preparation):
 - 5.1 Particulars and **contact details** of the legal practitioners;
 - 5.2 **Nature of the relief sought** (without referring to the notice of motion);
 - 5.3 Total number of pages;
 - 5.5 A brief summary of the factual as well as legal issues involved;
 - 5.4 A clear indication (without referring to the heads of argument) which portion of the **papers must be read** and which not;
 - 5.5 The main issues to be considered;
 - 5.6 A **brief summary of the <u>urgency</u>** or absence thereof;
 - 5.7 Whether there was **service by the sheriff**, and if not, why not (unopposed applications);
 - 5.8 Estimated duration;
 - 5.9 Whether the matter is **opposed or not**.

Failure to file a practice note setting out all the above information, par by par individually, may result in the application be struck off the roll or a punitive cost order be granted.

- The <u>Practice Note</u> must be served and filed (on Caselines only) <u>by no later</u> than Friday 5 November 2021 at 10:00 (to enable the senior Judge to do the allocations as soon as possible, failing which the matter may either be struck off the roll or be moved to the end of the roll and running the risk of being crowded out and/or to be postponed *sine die*) and the Heads of Argument by no later than Monday 8 November 2021 at 10:00 (on Caselines only). The applicant must also set out the reasons, in the Heads of Argument, why the matter is so urgent that it must be heard during the week concerned, by referring to the evidence in the founding affidavit. In unopposed matters the applicant must also indicate, in the practice note, where in the court papers the <u>Sheriff's return of service</u> is to be found.
- 7. The Practice Directive regarding Urgent Applications (Chapter 13.24) will still apply (to opposed and unopposed applications) and the Rules pertaining to urgency will be strictly enforced. Compliance with annexure "A" (13.24), more particularly par [4], subparagraphs (1) to (11) thereof, as referred to in paragraph 11 of Chapter 13.24 of the Practice Manual, will also be strictly enforced. If a matter is not ready to be adjudicated on the date and the time indicated in the notice of motion (subject to the degrees of urgency) and/or not to be so urgent as indicated in the Rules and the Practice Directive, it may be struck off the roll in which event a punitive costs order may be made.
- 8. All new applications, after hours or during court hours, must first be brought to the attention of Judge Fourie's clerk. In this regard the provisions of paragraph 7.1 to 7.4 of Chapter 13.24 of the Practice Manual will apply mutatis mutandis. All the provisions regarding the Practice Note and Heads of Argument referred to above, will apply mutatis mutandis to all new applications. All Rules and principles regarding urgency will also apply to these applications and will be strictly enforced. The urgent Court cellular number for Pretoria is: 065 859 4819.
- Filing of papers which were <u>impossible</u> to upload on Caselines, must be done
 via email to the Judges' clerks, <u>with an affidavit</u> explaning what steps were
 taken to upload, when and by whom the steps were taken and why it was not

possible to upload on Caselines. The judge's clerk must then be informed telephonically that an email has been sent.

Particulars of the clerk of Judge Fourie are as follows:

Ms S Gillissen

Cell: 079 400 1963 / 065 859 4819

Email: sgillissen90@gmail.com (for correspondence)

sgillissen@judiciary.org.za (for caseline invites)

Particulars of the clerk of Judge Ngobese are as follows:

Ms N Mbatha

Cell: 084 211 5083

Email: nombatha@judiciary.org.za

- 10. It should finally be pointed out that there is a growing tendency (especially during the lockdown period and during recess) to abuse the urgent court in two ways: First, to set matters down which are not ripe for hearing, not being urgent or where self-created urgency is applicable. This will not be allowed.

 Second, the urgent court is not intended to hear complex factual and/or legal issues scattered over hundreds of pages and which may take a long time to consider and finalise (when new matters may also be encountered on a daily basis in the urgent court). This will prevent other parties having their matters be adjudicated in time. Such complex cases may be removed from the roll and the parties may be referred to the Deputy Judge president to be allocated a special court at some time in future (cf Practice Manual, annexure "A" to 13.24, par [4] sub par (10) and (11), page H2-141).
- 11. All practitioners are requested to prepare a <u>draft court order by using "MS Word format"</u> (to allow for alterations) and <u>to upload it onto Caselines only.</u> A failure to comply with this request may result in the application be struck off the roll.
- 12. It is the duty of the applicant's attorney to ensure that the matter is timeously, properly and fully uploaded onto Caselines and that the Judge will have access to it.

13. A failure to comply fully and timeously with this Notice may result in the matter be struck off the roll.

DS FOURIE

JUDGE OF THE HIGH COURT

PRETORIA.