



OFFICE OF THE JUDGE PRESIDENT
FREE STATE HIGH COURT, BLOEMFONTEIN
Free State High Court, Private Bag X20612 BLOEMFONTEIN 9300
Corner Fountain and President Brand Street
Tell: 051 406 8100 Fax: 051 430 7041

17 April 2020

Pursuant to the President's announcement of extension of National Lockdown, read with the Delegation of Authority in terms of section 8(3) of the Superior Courts Act 10, 2013. I hereby issue the following directions, effective midnight April 16 until midnight 30 April 2020 (lockdown period):

1. Only urgent applications will be issued including matters relating to bail, maintenance and matters involving children.
2. Issuing of all summonses and applications is suspended except in matters where the claim would prescribe in the lockdown period. No new civil matters will be enrolled during the lockdown period.
3. Notices and pleadings including a notice of intention to defend, notice to oppose and pleas should be filed via email at RNAude@judiciary.org.za; JaDeWet@judiciary.org.za; roxannenownaude@gmail.com . Date of receipt shall be deemed to be the date on which the email was sent. Parties are encouraged to agree on extensions of the *dies*.
4. Civil trials, and pre-trials set down during the lockdown period which are not already postponed are automatically postponed to the pre-trial roll of 4 May 2020. Should parties agree to alternative dates, these requests can be provided to the registrar's office at the address set out in paragraph 3 above for consideration by the Judge President.
5. No opposed or unopposed motions will be set down for 22, 23, 24 and 30 April 2020. In order to avoid congested motion court rolls, practitioners will be

allowed to set down opposed and unopposed motions for 7 and 8 May 2020.

Set down in this regard to be done on Monday, 4 May 2020 by 12 noon. Where a legal practitioner has one or more unopposed matters before different judges, arrangements must be made with the judges via their respective clerks. This exception shall also apply to opposed motions. No practitioner should have opposed and unopposed motions on the same day.

6. The Registrar's Office and Legal Practitioners must identify all matters set down during the lockdown period and make necessary arrangements with the duty Judge for the postponement thereof. Legal Practitioners may contact the Registrars via email at the addresses set out in paragraph 3 above to make the necessary arrangements.
7. Rule nisi matters returnable during the lockdown period should be extended after appropriate arrangements made through the registrar's office with the duty Judge.
8. All criminal matters (trial, pre-trials, and appeals), set down for 25 March to 30 April 2020 have been postponed by the duty Judge to dates not beyond the second week of the third term. To seek further clarity on any criminal matters Advocate Lencoe of the DPP's office should be contacted via email at MLencoe@npa.gov.za or the registrar's office should be contacted as set out in paragraph 3 above.



Judge C.J. Musi
Judge President
Free State High Court, Bfn

