OFFICE OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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GRIFFIER VAN DIE HOGGEREGSHOF VAN SUID AFRIKA
GAUTENG AFDELING · JOHANNESBURG
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2020 -06- 18
REGISTRAR OF THE HIGH COURT OF SOUTH AFRICA
GAUTENG LOCAL DIVISION - JOHANNESBURG

18 June 2020

To:
Legal Practice Council - Gauteng
Gauteng Attorneys Association
Johannesburg Attorneys Association
West Rand Attorneys Association

AMENDED TAXATION DIRECTIONS
GAUTENG LOCAL DIVISION, JOHANNESBURG

Pursuant to the Judge President's Consolidated Directive dated 11 May 2020 and in terms of Paragraph 108 thereof, taxation directions were issued on 12 May 2020. These directions warranted expansion and the following amended directions are hereby issued effective immediately and remaining effective until further notice:

1. As from 4 May 2020 Taxing Masters will attend to settled bills of cost.
2. Attorneys, cost consultants and their messengers or proxies will not be allowed to attend at the court in relation to any taxation or bill of cost except as specifically provided for in 8.2 below.
3. All settled bills should be emailed to the designated email address, being JHBtaxation@judiciary.org.za
4. The email subject should read: SETTLED BILL: (insert case number)
5. The email should include a letter confirming settlement between the parties, the bill of cost with all disbursement vouchers and the stamped and signed court order. The case number must reflect on the page containing the *allocatur*.
6. Only the stamped and signed *allocatur* will be returned by email within 3 days.

7. No new taxation dates will be allocated until further notice.

8. Part-heard taxations may be disposed of at the discretion of the presiding Taxing Master and written confirmation of such enrolment will be sent from the designated email address.

   8.1 The Taxing Master will give direction on a case-by-case basis as to the appearance in part-heard taxations.

   8.2 Physical attendance at court under direction from the Taxing Master shall be limited to one person per party to the taxation.

   8.3 Any email communication in relation to such part-heard taxation must be sent to JHBtaxation@judiciary.org.za and the subject line should read: "PART-HEARD: (insert name of Taxing Master)(insert case number)(insert last taxation date)".

9. Matters that were enrolled for dates between 30 March and 30 April 2020 will be prioritised for enrolment at the discretion of the Head of Taxation.

10. As from 22 June 2020, Taxing Masters will attend to unopposed taxation *in absentia.*

   10.1. A Deposit Box will be available in the foyer of the court for delivery of unopposed bills of cost to be taxed.

   10.2 The documents, which must include all vouchers, a stamped and signed court order, proof of service, letter of non-opposition and two copies of the bill of cost; must be contained in a sealed envelope marked clearly TAXATION - UNOPPOSED together with a covering letter which contains the name and email address of the responsible person who must be notified upon completion of the taxation.

   10.3 By delivering bills of cost in the above manner, parties give implicit agreement to taxation *in absentia*. Any party who does not consent to taxation *in absentia* should not deliver their bills of cost as described above.

Roanne Bramdaw
Chief Registrar

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