Dear Members

Civil Practice Directive for Regional Courts

The Civil Practice Directives embraces the constitutional principle that everyone has the right to have any dispute that can be resolved by the application of law decided in a fair public hearing before a court or, where appropriate, another independent and impartial tribunal or forum as well as the principle that justice must also be seen to be done.

No interpretation of these practice directives should have the effect that access to justice is denied to any litigant, in particular the indigent. Now, therefore, the Regional Court Presidents' Forum hereby issues these revised Practice Directives which apply to all Regional Courts in the Republic of South Africa.

Click Here to access doc.

Gautrain busses stopping at Johannesburg High Court

The Province of Gauteng wants to assess whether there is sufficient demand for Gautrain bus stops at the Johannesburg High Court, Magistrates' Court, and CCMA, and wants a petition to be conducted. Currently, many legal professionals and members of the public avoid travelling on the Gautrain to Park Station due to the absence of a safe and reliable transport link from the station to key legal institutions. This undermines the purpose of the Gautrain as a convenient and efficient mode of transport. It is believed that a dedicated Gautrain bus service to these institutions will improve safety, encourage public transport use, and reduce congestion. There is a call on the Province of Gauteng to assess ridership demand and determine whether a new bus route is warranted. The Johannesburg Attorneys' Association (JAA) supports this call and asks you to sign and share this petition.

You can sign the petition here: https://chng.it/Hh7YCxjMGZ

Petition ends 31 January 2025.

Urgent Information session: Compulsory mediation in all High Court litigation matters

Discussions with the Judiciary of the Gauteng High court regarding mediation as possible solution to the back - logged trial dates have been ongoing since June 2024.

The Judiciary indicated in December 2024 that the Judiciary wishes to, as a matter of urgency (February 2025) implement mediation as compulsory method of dispute resolution by way of Practice directive in February 2025.

Final comments from the profession on the proposed Mediation framework document are to be discussed at a mediation task team meeting scheduled for Monday 27 January 2025. The GAA (PAA, JAA, WRLPA), BLA and NADEL have been called upon to submit these comments on behalf of their members, and the organised Attorneys profession at large. The GAA (Gauteng Attorneys Association) invites you (Members of the PAA, JAA and WRLPA) as well as other interested colleagues to attend this very important information session to be chaired by the Chairperson of the GAA Mr Yusuf Wadee.

When: Thursday 23 January 13:00 - 14:00 Where: Online via Zoom Join Zoom Meeting: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82253652118?pwd=LA8QJF62dwX1ch0cSdu1NxPKJb0n3c.1

Meeting ID: 822 5365 2118
Passcode: 746602

City of Johannesburg – Rates Clearance Letter

In terms of section 89(3) of the above referred to Act, registrars of deeds are compelled to call for rates clearance certificates with the transfer of all "property" as defined in section 1, as from 2 July 2009. As an interim measure, and until a final arrangement as to the rating of property is made, the measures in the letter attached will apply. Kindly note that the above measures only cover "property" within the jurisdiction of the City Council of Johannesburg.

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JAA Court Online Practical Workshop

The Johannesburg Attorneys' Association (JAA) is pleased to invite you to our upcoming Court Online Practical Workshop: Navigating and Using Court Online Efficiently. This workshop is designed to equip legal practitioners across the country with the skills and knowledge required to use Court Online effectively and in compliance with court requirements.

Workshop Details Date: 28 January 2025 Time: 14h00

Format: Hybrid event (in-person at Baker McKenzie in Sandton and virtual attendance available). This event is open to all Court Online users nationally and offers a valuable opportunity to enhance your practical understanding of this essential platform.

Tickets: R750.00 per person Purchase your ticket here:
https://www.jaa.org.za/product/national-court-online-practical-workshop/

If you have registered your interest last December via the MS Form, *you will still need to purchase a ticket* from the above link. When purchasing your ticket, you will be promoted to select in person or virtual. There are limited spaces available so be sure to book your ticket ASAP! How does this workshop benefit you? - Receive guided practical training on navigating Court Online in compliance with the latest Practice Directives - Master electronic filing, document management, and case progression on Court Online with hands-on demonstrations - Understand when and how to navigate between Court Online and CaseLines - Receive an exclusive JAA step-by-step Court Online guidebook

We look forward to welcoming you to this important workshop as we work together to advance digital legal practice in South Africa.



JAA on Social Media

Our social media profiles are updated daily with legal news, overviews and opinions. It's a great way to stay on top of the fast pace of news in Johannesburg, and an easy avenue to contact us or share your thoughts. Like, follow and share on our platforms: