

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY JUDGE PRESIDENT

(HIGH COURT OF SOUTH AFRICA, GAUTENG DIVISION, JOHANNESBURG)
OFFICE 1210

Telephone number: 010 494 8491
e-mail address: Secretarydjp@judiciary.org.za

N O T I C E

TO:

1. **Judges of the Gauteng Division, Johannesburg**
2. **Chief Registrar, Gauteng Division, Johannesburg**
3. **Secretariat – Judicial Case Flow Management, Office of the Chief Justice**
4. **Registrars – Gauteng Division of the High Court, Johannesburg**
5. **Legal Practice Council – Gauteng**
6. **Law Society 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. **South African Black Women in Law**
13. **National Association of Democratic Lawyers**
14. **Black Lawyers Association**
15. **South African Women Lawyers Association**
16. **South African Medical Malpractice Lawyers Association**
17. **Personal Injury Plaintiff Lawyers Association**
18. **South African Medico-Legal Association**
19. **Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, Pretoria and Johannesburg**
20. **Office of the State Attorneys, Pretoria and Johannesburg**
21. **Solicitor General**
22. **Office of the Family Advocate, Pretoria and Johannesburg**
23. **Legal Aid South Africa**
24. **Johannesburg Society of Advocates**
25. **Pretoria Society of Advocates**
26. **Gauteng Society of Advocates**
27. **Tshwane Society of Advocates**

28. Pan African Bar Association of South Africa
29. General Council of the Bar of South Africa
30. National Bar Council of South Africa
31. South African Bar Association
32. National Forum of Advocates
33. North Gauteng Association of Advocates
34. Church Square Association of Advocates
35. Advocates for Transformation
36. Legal Division of the Department of Health: Gauteng
37. Legal Division of the Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation
38. Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
39. Legal Services - Gauteng Provincial Department of Education
40. South African Board of Sheriffs
41. South African Sheriff Society
42. Road Accident Fund

DATE : 13 June 2025

OUR REF : DJP/18/2012/lt

RE : **NOTICE in re: SUMMARY JUDGMENT HEARINGS IN JOHANNESBURG**

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1. This notice advises legal Practitioners of changes to the hearings of summary judgment applications. The changes are effective from week 1 of term 3 of 2025.

2. Hitherto the summary judgment cases have been tagged onto the general opposed motion roll. This means that, at present, there are some summary judgment applications set down as far ahead as February 2026. This lead time is incongruent with the purpose of summary judgment remedies.

3. Henceforth, there shall be a dedicated summary judgment court which shall sit each week of the term to hear both opposed and unopposed summary judgment applications.

4. To overcome the long lead times certain cases that are set down in the 4th term of 2025 shall be transferred to the third term and the matters set down in the 1st term of 2026 shall be transferred to the 4th term of 2025. The revised set-downs are thus:

5. Third term and fourth term of 2025:
   5.1. In week 1 and 2 of the Third term the summary judgment matters enrolled in the opposed motion court and the unopposed motion court shall be heard in the dedicated summary judgment court.
   5.2. From week 3 of term 3 onwards, summary judgment matters enrolled in the opposed motion court and the unopposed motion court shall be heard in the dedicated summary judgment court and in addition the summary judgment cases enrolled in weeks 3 to 9 of the fourth term shall be transferred to weeks 3 to 9 in the third term.
   5.3. The summary judgment cases enrolled in weeks 1 and 2 of the 4th term shall remain where they are and be heard in those weeks in the 4th term.

6. Fourth term of 2025 and first term of 2026:
   6.1. All summary judgment cases already set down in term 1 of 2026 shall be transferred to the respective same week in term 4 of 2025; i.e., week 1 to week 1, week 2 to week 2 etc.
   6.2. All requests for enrolment of summary judgment applications made from 17 June 2025 onwards, can now be set down from the fourth week of term 4. This reduces the lead time from 23 weeks (excluding recesses) to 13 weeks.

7. The number of opposed summary judgment applications is capped at 10 per week.

8. The number of unopposed summary judgments is uncapped.

9. All cases shall formally be enrolled on the Monday of the week. The presiding judge shall dispose of the unopposed cases on Monday and direct when opposed matters shall be heard during the balance of the week.

10. The enrolment requirements to be issued a set down date of an opposed summary judgment application remain unchanged and continue to be regulated by the amendments to para 25 of the Practice Directive 1 of 2024, as published on 8 April 2025. Attention is drawn especially to para 25.4:

‘25.4 The opposed motion roll shall close at noon twenty (20) clear court days preceding the hearing date, **including** opposed applications for summary judgment enrolled in the opposed motion court’.

A copy of the directive of 8 April is attached hereto.

11. When an opportunity presents itself, a special big bang shall be arranged to reduce the summary judgment lead-time to 4 weeks.

Dictated by the Deputy Judge President
Electronically transmitted, therefore no signature

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ROLAND SUTHERLAND
DEPUTY JUDGE PRESIDENT