Room 028
High Court Building
Prichard/Von Brandis Streets
Johannesburg, 2001

VAT No: 4680128560
Tel: 010 449-3023
Email: info@jaa.org.za
www.jaa.org.za

THE JOHANNESBURG
ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION

13 June 2023

Dear Members,

1. Following on the Gauteng Efficiency Enhancement Committee Meeting on 13 June 2023, we wish to bring the following to our members' attention:-

    a. Lead time for dates:-

        i. Admissions: 2.5 months (18 Augusts 2023);
        ii. Civil Trials: RAF: 12 – 26 months (>5 days) August 2005 (1-2 days) 2024;
        Non-Y: (M.o.P) 18 months (2025);
        "C", "D" & "P": 9 (March 2024);
        iii. Trial Interlocutory: 3 weeks (26 June 2023);
        iv. Trial Default Judgments: 8 months (February 2024);
        v. Opposed Motion: 3 months (4 September 2023);
        vi. Unopposed Motion: 4 – 6 weeks (17 – 31 July 2023);
        vii. Family Court: 3 – 5 weeks (17 July 2023 – no recess roll);
        viii. Unopposed Divorce: 2 weeks (the following Friday);
        ix. Civil Appeals: 1 full term;
        x. Taxation: 12 weeks (7 September 2023);
        xi. Criminal Appeals: 4 – 6 months.

    b. The delays in the allocation of dates (Court Online and Caselines) and issuing of warrants of execution (Court Online) have been discussed extensively. We shall give feedback in this regard in the coming weeks.

    Escalate enquiries (after 5 court days) and only after confirming that no note has been posted by the Registrar.
    Do not attach any documents.
    Do not send duplicate and/or follow-up emails.
    Send emails during court hours.
    A query email must be limited to 5 case numbers.

    Escalate enquiries to:-
    Unopposed motion JHBmotionenquiries@judiciary.org.za
    Family law motions JHBfamilycourt@judiciary.org.za
    CMC's and settlement court jhbpretrial@judiciary.org.za
    Enrolment of civil trials jhbciviltrials@judiciary.org.za
    Admissions & Trial Interlocutory applications gmodipa@judiciary.org.za; mmmola@judiciary.org.za
    Taxations bnxumalo@judiciary.org.za
    Rule 31(5) default judgments JHB defaults@judiciary.org.za
    Special Interlocutory Court mmmola@judiciary.org.za
    Trial Default Judgment Court tkhumalo@judiciary.org.za

    If no response to your query is received please notify the JAA (dominique@aricumlaw.co.za) of the issues being experienced. Also forward us your email dispatched to the Registrar with your query and also let us know what further steps, if any, have been taken to resolve the query with the Registrar.

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c. Functionality issues on Court Online have also been raised and this is being addressed by the IT department.

d. The long anticipated call queueing system for the Call Centre has been installed and is active from 7 June 2023.

e. Challenges with Court Online should be raised with he Service Desk 010 493-2600 or courtonline@judiciary.org.za or in person at the Court Online Service Desk (Room008).

   We encourage our members to make use of the open link every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 14h00 to 16h00. The Registrars, very often, resolve queries online, especially with republishing of documents, alternatively escalate where they are unable to assist. This is a very helpful platform.

   Also, once you have logged into a session, you can at any time thereafter (not necessarily during the session) go and post your query on the chat room. The Registrars will monitor this on the other days when there is no session for the day to assist in resolving queries more speedily.

   Herewith the link again:

   https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_NjIwYjk4NTctZjRlMy00M2Y0LTlmOGUtYTE3MjZkYzgzZTM1%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22c83e2aea-897a-4fe9-ba0c-12e02388f238%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%2235823b3a-a195-4e2c-bf5b-4d225fd4b7a6%22%7d

2. We are engaging with the Court Online Registrars to put in place further training sessions for our members, taking our members through the system step-by-step. We hope to roll this out fairly soon.

3. You will all agree that it is a minefield navigating through all the current Practice Directives. The DJP is busy finalizing the new Consolidated Practice Directive which should be out by the beginning of the next term.

4. Once the new Consolidated Practice Directive has been released, the JAA will also have training sessions working through the new Consolidated Practice Directive with our members.

5. We encourage our members to kindly engage with our office on problems experienced / issues to be addressed to ensure that all stakeholders work together to improve the system.

Regards,
JOHANNESBURG ATTORNEYS' ASSOCIATION