JOHANNESBURG ATTORNEYS' ASSOCIATION

www.jaa.org.za
@jaa.org.za
Johannesburg Attorneys' Association (JAA)
@Johannesburg Attorneys Association

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

Tel: 010 449 3023
Email: info@jaa.org.za

2 JUNE 2026

GAUTENG EFFICIENCY ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Dear Members,

1. Following on the liaison meeting on 1 June 2026, we wish to highlight some of the issues discussed:-

1.1. Teams Link

It was resolved that should the service experience downtime, stakeholders will be notified in advance so that we can update our members accordingly.

1.2. Rule 6(5)(b)(iii)

Service of applications (main and interlocutory) without a date is non-compliant with Rule 6(5)(b)(ii).

1.3. Summary Judgment dates

The urgency to apply for a date and the short turnaround time required was highlighted. Suggestions will be put forward by the Acting Chief Registrar to SITA to include a separate document title when applying for a Summary Judgment Date.

1.4. Duplication of heads of argument and practice note – opposed motions

Discussions are still ongoing on how to resolve this issue.

Various suggestions were tabled, however, many of these suggestions would have the unintended effect of adding an extra burden on the Registrars, when there are already understaffing issues.

The most practical would be to open the link between Court Online and Caselines bundling on ISSUING a document instead of when a date is allocated. This would allow practitioners to start taking over case documents after filing same on Court Online instead of waiting on a date and then only have to take over a voluminous number of case documents. However, this also then comes with the risk that some practitioners may try and bypass Court Online and simply file on Caselines (which, of course, is non-compliant).

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1.5. Service by email in terms of Rule 4A

Complaints were raised that there are some Judges / Acting Judges removing matters where there was no acknowledgement of receipt of a document from the opponent when service was effected in terms of Rule 4A.

The JAA submitted that this is contrary to Rule 4A, read with ECTA sections 23B and 26, which stipulates that an acknowledgment of receipt is not necessary to give legal effect; an email dispatch report is sufficient.

The Acting DJP advised that practitioners must not passively accept incorrect Rule interpretations but must fully argue such matters in Court to establish binding jurisprudence and insist on written reasons.

1.6. Taxations

It was reported that taxations are taking place despite serious capacity constraints.

Severe dissatisfaction was expressed by multiple stakeholders who noted that that which is reported is not, in fact, what is experienced on ground level.

The Acting DJP acknowledged the highly charged nature of the complaints and it was resolved that a specialised focused meeting be convened to deal with this matter on its own. The meeting has been scheduled for 18 June 2026 and we shall provide our members with a further update thereafter.

We kindly request our members, who have not yet provided feedback with regards to any outstanding taxation issue, to please complete the Google form.

https://docs.google.com/forms/u/0/d/1JfqNIaB4efw9IlmtkBtNCYb1j1JfDsZJ88hS8kesysE/viewform?pli=1&pli=1&authuser=0&edit_requested=true

Should you want to provide a spreadsheet of matters, you are welcome to email the spreadsheet to petro@pmvattorneys.co.za.

We can only advocate effectively on behalf of the profession if we have the necessary factual information to provide to the Acting DJP.

2. We want to 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.

Yours sincerely,

JOHANNESBURG ATTORNEYS' ASSOCIATION

HIGH COURT SUB-COMMITTEE