



Labour Courts  
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Also in Cape Town  
Durban and  
Port Elizabeth

18 March 2020

## FROM OFFICE OF THE JUDGE PRESIDENT

### URGENT DIRECTIVE IN RESPECT OF ACCESS TO THE LABOUR AND LABOUR APPEAL COURTS AND SERVICE AND FILING OF DOCUMENTS IN LIGHT OF **COVID 19**

The following directives will apply with immediate effect until the “**State of Disaster**” is uplifted or a notice is issued by the Judge President to the effect that this directive is no longer applicable.

1. With respect to access to Courts, parties and the public’s attention is drawn to the Directive issued by the Chief Justice under the auspices of the Heads of Court on 17 March 2020, (attached hereto) which deals with access to all Courts.
2. Save for Urgent Court matters, Judges and staff will deal only with matters that are enrolled for hearing; provided that parties may agree to postpone

matters that have been enrolled during this period. In such event, parties must alert the Registrar and the relevant Judge's Secretary of any agreed postponement as a matter of urgency. It must be understood that the reason for the parties seeking to postpone the matter is related to the crisis which this directive seeks to address. Matters will be continued to be enrolled in the normal course.

2. Parties in matters that have been postponed under this Directive may approach the Judge President in writing for an expedited date for a new hearing. The letters must be addressed to the following addresses or, where access to email is not available telephonic contact may be made:

**Labour Court:**

Johannesburg Ms. F Ntuli [fntuli@judiciary.org.za](mailto:fntuli@judiciary.org.za) Tel: 011 3595760  
Cape Town Ms. F Ismail [Flsmail@judiciary.org.za](mailto:Flsmail@judiciary.org.za) Tel:021 4249035  
Durban Mr. T Vilakazi [TVilakazi@judiciary.org.za](mailto:TVilakazi@judiciary.org.za) Tel: 031 992 6202  
Port Elizabeth Ms. S Gerber [SGerber@judiciary.org.za](mailto:SGerber@judiciary.org.za) Tel: 041 502 6635

**Labour Appeal Court:**

Mr. C Phophi [CPhophi@judiciary.org.za](mailto:CPhophi@judiciary.org.za) Tel: 011 3595766

3. Parties may file ([labourcourts@judiciary.org.za](mailto:labourcourts@judiciary.org.za)) and serve documents by e-mail and confirm receipt by party on whom such document is served

telephonically. An affidavit of service must also be similarly filed within 24 hours of service by email.

4. Documents referred to in paragraph 3 above do not include records required to be filed and served for purposes of reviews or records required to be filed and served for purposes of appeals. In this regard where service or filing cannot be managed in the normal course, the Registrars referred to in paragraph 2 above may be telephonically contacted for directions.
5. Counsel are advised not to attend Judges' chambers for purposes of introductions. All introductions are suspended. Judges will not shake hands with any practitioners.

Basheer Waglay  
Judge President Labour and  
Labour Appeal Court.

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