



OFFICE OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**HIGH COURT OF SOUTH AFRICA, GAUTENG DIVISION, PRETORIA
FROM THE CHAMBERS OF HONOURABLE JUSTICE VAN DER MERWE AJ**

TEL: /EMAIL:

27 MAY 2026

TO: ALL LEGAL PRACTITIONERS

**DIRECTIVE FOR DEFAULT JUDGMENT ROLL COMMENCING THE WEEK OF
THE WEEK OF 1-5 JUNE 2026
BEFORE HONOURABLE VAN DER MERWE AJ**

1. Introductions will take place virtually at the commencement of the hearing.
2. Matters will be heard IN Open Court/ **via Microsoft Teams** commencing at 10:00.
A link will be provided.
3. All documents are to be uploaded to Caselines by **no later than 12h00, two days preceding the hearing** of the matter, i.e.:
 - 3.1. Allowance will be made for matters to be heard on Monday 1 June 2026 – no later than 12h00 Thursday 28 May 2026;
 - 3.2. Matters to be heard on Wednesday 3 June 2026 – no later than 12h00, Friday 29 May 2026;
 - 3.3. Matters to be heard on Friday 5 June 2026 – no later than 12h00, Wednesday 3 June 2026;
4. Heads of Argument must be uploaded to Caselines under a separate folder (see para 3 above).

5. Where matters have **already become defended or settled prior to the hearing**, the parties are to inform the Judge's registrar of this fact immediately by e-mail (LMckenzie@judiciary.org.za), thereafter, upload a draft order, should they wish the matter to be removed. This will avoid unnecessary perusal and preparation.
6. All documents should be uploaded in accordance with the Practice Directive.
7. The removal and settlement of matters will be heard at the calling of the roll; whereafter matters will be heard in order of seniority.
8. Draft orders should be uploaded under a separate folder. Parties are to ensure that the case details, courtroom, and Acting Judge's details are correct on the draft order.
9. The details of a representative from the State Attorney or claims handler (where not defended) and the link number must be contained on the last page of the draft order (if known/possible).