



## Covid-19 Regulatory Update

06 April 2020

Covid-19 related guidelines and regulations: <https://www.gov.za/coronavirus/guidelines>.  
Covid-19 Directives and notices relating to legal practitioners:  
<http://www.derebus.org.za/directives-covid-19/> / <https://lpc.org.za/>

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### AGRICULTURE

*Media Release*

**Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development. Minister Didiza to announce interventions in the agricultural sector to ensure continued production of food during COVID-19 and beyond. 05 April 2020.**

“Following last week’s announcement of the R1.2 billion COVID-19 disaster fund intervention in the agricultural sector as a response to assist small-scale farmers, Minister Thoko Didiza will pronounce the details of this allocation during a virtual media briefing to be held on Monday, 06 April 2020. Details of the media briefing are as follows: date: Monday, 06 April 2020; time: 13:00 and venue: Tshedimosetso House, GCIS Auditorium, 1035 Francis Baard Street, Hatfield in Pretoria.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-thoko-didiza-announces-interventions-agricultural-sector-ensure-continued>

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### COMPETITION

*Government Gazette*

**Competition Act 89 of 1998**

Competition Tribunal Rules for Covid -19 Excessive Pricing Complaint Referrals.

RGN448 GG 43205 p3 3Apr2020

[http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43205\\_03-04\\_DTI.pdf](http://www.gpwonline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43205_03-04_DTI.pdf)

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## CRIMINAL LAW AND PROCEDURE

### Media Releases

#### **KwaZulu-Natal Transport. KwaZulu-Natal Transport arrests over 1 000 people for failing to adhere to Coronavirus COVID-19 lockdown regulations. 02 April 2020.**

“KwaZulu-Natal Transport arrests over 1000 people for failing to adhere to Coronavirus COVID-19 lockdown regulations. A total of 1443 people spent the past few days of the national lockdown behind bars after they were arrested by KwaZulu-Natal law enforcement agencies during raids and roadblocks held across the province as part of clamping down on lawlessness. Speaking during a roadblock on the R102 in KwaDukuza today, 02 April 2020, KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison, Mr Bheki Ntuli, said major roadblocks and law enforcement operations will continue throughout the province targeting various categories of crime including overloading and failure to adhere to the lockdown regulations.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/kwazulu-natal-transport-arrests-over-1-000-people-failing-adhere-coronavirus-covid-19>

#### **South African Police Service. Minister Bheki Cele welcomes the decrease in serious and violent crimes, attributing this to amongst other factors, the prohibition of the sale and movement of liquor since the Coronavirus COVID-19 lockdown. 05 April 2020.**

“Police Minister, General Bheki Cele, on Sunday morning, 05 April 2020 welcomed the general decrease in serious and violent crimes, attributing this to amongst other factors, the prohibition of the sale and movement of liquor since the COVID-19 nationwide lockdown. The 2019-2020 National Crime Statistics are yet to be officially released by the Minister of Police to Parliament at a later stage this year. Therefore, the analysis done currently is a preliminary report that is yet to undergo the necessary verification and endorsements.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-bheki-cele-welcomes-decrease-serious-and-violent-crimes-attributing-amongst-other>

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## EDUCATION

### Media Release

#### **Western Cape Education. MEC Debbie Schäfer on Quality Learning resources. 03 April 2020.**

“Grade 12 is already a stressful year for most learners as they complete their schooling career and face their final examinations. With the extended holiday and lockdown period we understand that this can cause further anxiety and distress... All Grade 12 learners are encouraged to revise the work covered during the first term, and work through all assignments and tests they previously completed. They will also need to prepare for the work ahead and for the examination process, using the “Tips for Success booklets” or curriculum guidelines (both located on the WCED website), learners can start reading about the topics and concepts that will be introduced before they write their examinations, using different sources and to share good material with fellow learners. Research is an important part of learning. Self-research, analysis of materials, and summarisation are all key skills.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/mec-debbie-sch%C3%A4fer-quality-learning-resources-3-apr-2020-0000>

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## ENERGY & MINING

### Media Release

#### **Department of Mineral Resources. Remarks by Mineral Resources and Energy Minister, Mr Gwede Mantashe (MP), update on sector interventions responding to the nationwide lockdown. 03 April 2020.**

“In our previous briefing, we outlined that mining operations will be scaled down significantly, particularly deep-level mining. Essential services supporting the sector – including security and related infrastructure, maintenance, water pumping and ventilation, must continue. Mines supplying Eskom continue operating. Production of gold, chrome, manganese, iron ore and other sectors will operate at scaled down levels, to allow smelters which cannot be switched on and off abruptly, to remain operational.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-gwede-mantashe-updates-sector-interventions-responding-coronavirus-covid-19>

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## ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

*Media Release***Department of Environmental Affairs, Forestry and Fisheries. Minister of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries, Barbara Creecy updates on measures taken in the sector during the national lockdown. 03 April 2020.**

“National regulations identified food and hygiene products as essential goods. Accordingly, the fisheries sector is operating during this time. It includes the right of both commercial and small scale fishers/ interim relief to fish. In previous communication we outlined extension with regards to fishing permits. Today we outline provisions that allow commercial and small scale/interim relief fishers in the Northern and Western Cape to take advantage of the snoek run in the Northern Cape. Accordingly, fishers in the Northern and Western Cape may travel within and across the provinces to catch snoek in what is known as Zone A. At all times, fishing teams must adhere to prescribed hygiene provisions such as sanitising of hands, sanitising the insides of vehicles and equipment. Restrictions on the number of passengers in vehicles must be observed at all times.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-barbara-creecy-updates-measures-taken-sector-during-coronavirus-covid-19-lockdown>

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**FINANCIAL LAW***Media Statement***SA Government News Agency. 81 000 SMMEs submit funding applications.**

2020 April 3 SA News

“Applications on the SMME SA database were opened on Thursday at 9am, said Small Business Development Minister Khumbudzo Ntshavheni, during a ministerial press briefing on Friday...“We want to clarify to SMMEs out there that registering on the database does not translate to you applying. We want to ascertain that you are indeed an operating business and not a shelf company,” she said. She said this was to eliminate the possibilities of system abuse. “You’ll recall that we said for you to qualify you need to have been in business by 29 February 2020,” the minister said. On Tuesday, the department announced that a date will be set for spaza shop’s support programme application. “Because we are picking up lessons from the two schemes, we have decided to delay and clean-up our mistakes from the first batch of applications that have come through so that we don’t open applications for spaza shops,” said Ntshavheni.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/81-000-smmes-submit-funding-applications>

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**LOCKDOWN REGULATIONS***Media Release***South African Police Service. Minister Bheki Cele welcomes National Command Council revisions on Coronavirus COVID-19 lockdown regulations. 03 April 2020.**

“Police Minister, General Bheki Cele has welcomed the revisions by the National Command Council to the Lockdown Regulations and has taken time to elaborate on those aspects of the Regulations that seemed to have caused confusion amongst the public. With the second weekend of the lockdown around the corner, Minister Cele has contextualised the relaxation of the regulations in as far as movement between Provinces, travelling to and from funerals is concerned.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-bheki-cele-welcomes-national-command-council-revisions-coronavirus-covid-19>

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**MEDICAL LAW***Media Releases***Department of International Relations and Cooperation. International Relations and Cooperation welcomes first group of repatriated South Africans. 03 April 2020.**

“The Department of International Relations and Cooperation is pleased to announce that 16 South Africans who were stranded in Dubai and Doha, respectively, have been successfully repatriated back to South Africa. They arrived yesterday, 02 April 2020, following the announcement by the President of the relaxation of the restrictions to allow South Africans stranded abroad to travel back home. The group is currently under quarantine as per the regulations. Another group of about 16 citizens stranded in Germany is expected to return from Frankfurt over the weekend.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/international-relations-and-cooperation-welcomes-first-group-repatriated-south-africans-3>

**Department of Higher Education and Training. Minister Blade Nzimande see off quarantined TVET students at Ekurhuleni, 4 Apr. 03 April 2020.**

“The Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation, Dr Blade Nzimande, will tomorrow, Saturday, 4 April 2020, see off the 76 South African Technical Vocational Education and Training Students who will be reunited with their

families after testing negative for coronavirus at the end of their quarantine at the Birchwood Hotel and Conference Centre in Kempton Park. On Friday, the 20th March 2020, these students returned from China - Wuhan after having being in work placement at Chinese companies arranged through various Sector Education and Training Authorities. On arrival to South Africa, these students were placed in quarantine. Three DHET officials have been deployed to oversee the students over this period.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-blade-nzimande-see-quarantined-tvet-students-ekurhuleni-4-apr-3-apr-2020-0000>

**Department of Health. Minister Zweli Mkhize confirms total of 1 585 cases of Coronavirus COVID-19. 04 April 2020.**

“As at today, the total number of confirmed COVID-19 cases is 1585. This is an increase of 80 from the previously reported cases. The provincial breakdown is as follows: Gauteng: 693; Western Cape: 433; Kwazulu – Natal: 232; Free State: 85; North West: 11; Mpumalanga: 18; Limpopo: 18; Eastern Cape: 25; Northern Cape: 7; Unallocated: 63. The total number of COVID-19 tests conducted to date is 53 937.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-zweli-mkhize-confirms-1585-cases>

**North West Health. Missing Covid-19 positive person tracked down and quarantined. 05 April 2020.**

“The North West Department of Health has taken a decision to put all confirmed Covid-19 patients and their contacts under its supervision to avoid further spread of coronavirus. The decision was made after a Covid-19 patient from Bloemhof could not be found at home and had to be tracked down to a farm in Welkom in the Free State Province. Health MEC, Madoda Sambatha said the patient was immediately put under the care of the department.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/north-west-health-supervision-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19-cases-5-apr-2020-0000>

**North West Provincial Government. Premier Job Mokgoro leads roll out of screening, testing and contact tracing in North West, 6 Apr. 03 April 2020.**

“North West Premier, Prof Tebogo Job Mokgoro, will from Monday, 06 April 2020 lead the roll out of the screening, testing and contact tracing programme throughout the Province, and for the duration of next week. The Premier will be accompanied by all Members of the Provincial Command Council throughout. The Programme will be launched in Motswedi village near Zeerust on Monday, 06 April 2020 at 09h00 and will run until 17h00. The Provincial Command Council has decided on Motswedi village because of a Botswana citizen who passed away recently in Botswana from COVID-19, after having attended a funeral in Motswedi; and there is an urgent need for the screening, testing and tracing of any person who might have come into contact with the deceased.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/premier-job-mokgoro-leads-roll-out-screening-testing-and-contact-tracing-north-west-6-apr-%C2%A0>

**The Presidency. President Cyril Ramaphosa assesses progress and challenges on implementation of Coronavirus COVID-19 lockdown. 04 April 2020.**

“The PCC received a report from the National Joint Operational and Intelligence Structure (NatJoints) covering amongst other issues, adherence to the national lockdown regulations, ongoing contact tracing, accommodation requirements including identified quarantine sites and the roll out of the mass community testing programme. To date, 5 400 field workers have been trained and have already been deployed to various areas across the country, whilst thousands more are still to undergo training. Priority districts and 993 wards have been identified, composed of the most vulnerable and at risk communities as well as areas with high rates of infection. Provinces are working with the National Health Laboratory Services (NHLS) to identify testing sites which will include both fixed and mobile test facilities.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/president-cyril-ramaphosa-assesses-progress-and-challenges-implementation-coronavirus-covid>

**Western Cape Provincial Government. Premier Alan Winde updates on Coronavirus COVID-19 cases. 04 April 2020.**

“Update on the coronavirus by Premier Alan Winde – Community screening commences today.

As at 00h01 on 04 April 2020, the Western Cape had recorded 446 Covid-19 infections.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/premier-alan-winde-updates-coronavirus-covid-19-cases-4-apr-2020-0000>

*Media Statements*

**SA Government News Agency. Gauteng calls for donations of PPE, ventilators.**

2020 April 4 SA News

“The Gauteng Health Department has called for donations of personal protective equipment (PPE) and ventilators. The call comes as South Africa marked day 9 of the 21-day national lockdown aimed at stopping the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19). “The fight against COVID-19 requires a joint effort by all sectors of society. This includes the increasing of the resource capacity of the Gauteng health system across the board with regards to its COVID-19 response,” said the provincial department. To date, over 1 500 people in South Africa have tested positive for the virus.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/gauteng-calls-donations-ppe-ventilators>

**SA Government News Agency. Protective gear consignment arriving this weekend.**

2020 April 3 SA News

“Government is ramping up efforts to make sure that every health worker has protective gear as soon as next week.

Health Deputy Minister Joe Phaahla made the assurance during a ministerial press briefing on Friday, where he said the government would be getting stock from this weekend and early next week. The health worker unions have been putting pressure on government to provide health care workers with personal protective equipment (PPE), with Nehawu threatening to take Health Minister Zweli Mkhize to court over the matter. There were also concerns that healthcare professionals were putting their lives at risk of contracting COVID-19.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/protective-gear-consignment-arriving-weekend>

**SA Government News Agency. WHO: One million COVID-19 cases expected in the next few days.**

2020 April 3 SA News

“The World Health Organisation (WHO) has warned that in the next few days the world will reach one million confirmed cases of COVID-19. WHO Director General, Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, said that over the past five weeks, the world has witnessed a near exponential growth in the number of new cases, reaching almost every country, territory and area. “The number of deaths has more than doubled in the past week. In the next few days we will reach one million confirmed cases, and 50 000 deaths,” Ghebreyesus said. As the world enters the fourth month since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, Ghebreyesus said he was deeply concerned about the rapid escalation and global spread of infection.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/who-one-million-covid-19-cases-expected-next-few-days>

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## SAFETY AND SECURITY

### *Media Releases*

**Government Communications. Government calls for continued respect of the rule of law during Coronavirus COVID-19 lockdown period. 05 April 2020.**

“As the country entered into the second week of the lockdown, the National Joint Operational And Intelligence Structure (NatJOINTS) is calling on communities and various organisations to refrain from taking the law into their own hands to enforce Disaster Management Regulations. The NatJOINTS which comprises of various Government departments, is responsible for the coordination of the Covid-19 operations, including high density policing operations, border control, route security, public health infection containment, etc, So far the greater majority of the nation has been very co-operative in adhering to the Disaster Management Regulations. However, the call for greater adherence to the Regulations comes following the continuous non-adherence to these Regulations by certain individuals. This after taxi operators in the Eastern Cape tried to stop motor vehicles transporting essential service workers to work. This practice must cease immediately as no one may take the law into their own hands.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/government-calls-continued-respect-rule-law-during-coronavirus-covid-19-lockdown-period-5>

**Government Communications. Government on Pretoria man arrested after video mocking efforts to prevent spread of Coronavirus COVID-19. 05 April 2020.**

“A 23-year old man was arrested for allegedly contravening the Regulations of the Disaster Management Act 2002. On 27 March 2020 little snippets of a video, in which two young men were seen travelling around Pretoria with one of them continuously swearing, mocking efforts to curb the Covid-19 virus and bragging they do not comply with laws put in place to contain the virus, went viral. In one of the snippets, one man appears to be standing in front of a police station and continued swearing about the virus. This matter was investigated and the suspect was traced and found inside a residential complex in the Lyttelton policing area.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/government-pretoria-man-arrested-after-video-mocking-efforts-prevent-spread-coronavirus>

### *Media Statements*

**SA Government News Agency. Police won't accept non-compliant donations, says Cele.**

2020 April 3 SA News

“The South African Police Service (SAPS) turned down a sanitiser donation by Afriforum as it did not go through Treasury Regulations, said Police Minister Bheki Cele. This comes after media reports this week indicated the SAPS in Gauteng had refused to accept a donation of hand sanitisers from the organisation. While this was a leaked official and internal correspondence, the Police Minister believes it was published with the malicious intention of blowing things out of proportion.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/police-wont-accept-non-compliant-donations-says-cele>

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## TRADE AND INDUSTRY

### *Media Releases*

**North West Provincial Government. North West on opening informal businesses during Coronavirus COVID-19 lockdown. 03 April 2020.**

“The National Minister Khumbudzo Ntshavheni of Department Small Business Development has clarified the issue relating to the operations of informal traders this morning on an interview with SAFM as per amended Regulations and Directives issued last week. The Minister indicated that spaza-shops and informal traders selling vegetables and fruits with approved permits from their local municipalities are allowed to operate within the residential areas. It should be noted that each spaza shop must have its own permit meaning that those owning more should apply for each shop. Local Economic Development (LED) officials from Local Municipalities are on board in terms of issuance of permits.”  
<https://www.gov.za/speeches/north-west-provincial-government-opening-informal-businesses-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

**Western Cape Office of the Premier. Comment by Premier Alan Winde on regulations around essential goods. 03 April 2020.**

“There has been a lot of debate online about how regulations, especially relating to what you can buy at the shops, are being interpreted...The Western Cape Government does not have the power to change regulations. From the outset we have shown our full support to President Ramaphosa for the lock-down and we are doing everything we can to help ensure these regulations are enforced. The regulations are however at times vague, and residents across the province are confused about what it means for them. We have tried to help with this interpretation, after consulting our legal team, and SAPS. We have done this only to provide the clarity many people need – so that they can abide by regulations properly. Everyone wants to play their part. This requires common sense but also an understanding of the objective of the regulations: to keep people from gathering and spreading the virus.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/premier-alan-winde-regulations-during-covid-19-coronavirus-lockdown-3-apr-2020-0000>

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## TRANSPORTATION

### *Media Release*

**The Presidency. Minister of Transport. Speaking notes for the Minister of Transport, Fikile Mbalula, on the occasion of the media briefing of the Economic Cluster on COVID-19 lockdown interventions. 03 April 2020.**

“It is rather unfortunate that others see this responsiveness as lowering the bar in the measures we have introduced. We remain firmly committed to ensuring that public transport across all modes does not become an area responsible for the spread of the virus. The adjustment of capacity from 50% to 70% in respect of the taxi industry and morning operating times of buses and taxis from 09h00 to 10h00 is informed by material conditions on the ground. One of the key unintended consequences of the 9am cut-off time in the morning was that a significant number of people get left behind in shopping malls because some of the stores like pharmacies and banks only open at 9am. This then results in large numbers of people wandering around waiting for the next window for public transport in the afternoon... Our airspace remains closed to passenger flights, with exceptions made for authorized flights either repatriating foreign nationals or bringing South Africans stranded in foreign countries home. “

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/president-cyril-ramaphosa-chairs-virtual-presidential-coordinating-council-meeting-4-apr-4>

### *Media Statement*

**SA Government News Agency. Queen Mary 2 leaves Port of Durban.**

2020 April 3 SA News

“Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA) has confirmed that the Queen Mary 2 passenger vessel has departed the Port of Durban after refuelling and the disembarkation of six South African crew members. The ship had been positioned outside the port since 27 March 202, after requesting clearance to berth to receive bunkers and stores. Approval was granted on 31 March 2020 by the Department of Transport and the Port Health unit of the Department of Health, for the vessel to dock, refuel and allow the six crew members to come ashore. The six South African crew were among 27 individuals on-board including passengers and crew members who were tested for COVID-19 due to flu-like symptoms and/or contact with symptomatic individuals on-board. Although all 27 individuals tested negative, Health Minister Dr Zweli Mkhize said the six South Africans will be required to self-quarantine for 14 days as a precautionary measure.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/queen-mary-2-leaves-port-durban>

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## WATER

### *Media Release*

**SA Government News Agency. Water tanks delivered in Gauteng.**

2020 April 5 SA News

“A total of 1 482 water tanks have been delivered to various parts of Gauteng to ameliorate protracted water shortages in communities and avert their susceptibility to the spread of Coronavirus. The department implemented the measures following a call by Minister of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation, Lindiwe Sisulu, to make water accessible to communities that continue to face water shortages. Sisulu’s call is in line with measures announced by President Cyril Ramaphosa aimed at ensuring that poor communities are not severely impacted by the virus.”

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