

Covid-19 Regulatory Update

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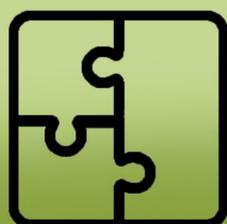
Covid-19 Regulatory Update: 25 May 2020

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Index to Covid-19 regulations and notices: <https://juta.co.za/covid-19-legislation-update/2020/05/21/index/>

Lexinfo Practice Management Alert



Practice Management Alert

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This newsletter is published bi-monthly and focuses on issues such as client care, innovation, legal technology, management, leadership, remote working, work-life balance, knowledge management, libraries, succession, management, skills development, artificial intelligence, human resources, libraries, marketing and branding.

The latest edition, March to April 2020, is now available. This edition contains valuable references to various international resources and case studies on the challenges and possible solutions for legal practices in view of the Covid-19 pandemic. The March to April 2020 edition can be purchased for only R99 including VAT.

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CONFIRMED CASES

Media Releases

Department of Health. Minister Zweli Mkhize confirms total of 22 583 cases of Coronavirus COVID-19. 24 May 2020.

“As announced by His Excellency, President MC Ramaphosa, the total number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in South Africa today is 22 583.

- Eastern Cape: 2690;
- Free State: 202;
- Gauteng: 2773;
- KwaZulu-Natal: 1815;
- Limpopo: 128;
- Mpumalanga: 101;
- North West: 94;
- Northern Cape: 40;
- Western Cape: 14740;
- Unknown: 0; and
- Total: 22583.

Regrettably, we report 22 more COVID-19 related deaths- this brings the total national deaths to 429.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-zweli-mkhize-confirms-total-22583-cases-coronavirus-covid-19-24-may-2020-0000>

Western Cape. Premier Alan Winde. Update on the coronavirus by Premier Alan Winde - 24 May 2020.

“As of 1pm on 24 May, the Western Cape has 6719 active cases of Covid-19, with a total of 13 969 confirmed cases and 6950 recoveries.

Total confirmed Covid-19 cases: 13969

Total recoveries: 6950

Total deaths: 300

Total active cases (currently infected patients): 6719

Total number of tests: 121072

Hospitalisations 569 of which 151 are in ICU or high care”

<https://coronavirus.westerncape.gov.za/news/update-coronavirus-premier-alan-winde-24-may>

Report

National Institute for Communicable Diseases. National COVID-19 daily report. 24 May 2020.

https://www.nicd.ac.za/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/COVID19-Daily-Report-National-24May2020_public.pdf

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COURT ACTIONS

Media Comments

Khumalo, Junour. Avalanche of cases against State on Covid-19.

2020 May 24 City Press

“Management Act and the legality of some of the measures it has applied to curb the spread of the Covid-19 coronavirus.... The DA’s shadow minister of justice and constitutional development, Glynnis Breytenbach, has filed two applications on behalf of the opposition party: one with the Constitutional Court and another with the Pretoria High Court.... On Tuesday, lobby group AfriForum will also test government’s restrictive measures in court.... She said AfriForum was challenging regulations by Dlamini-Zuma, which stipulate that everyone who tests positive for Covid-19 should be placed under compulsory state quarantine.... The Freedom Front Plus (FF+) has also approached the Pretoria High Court with an urgent application to challenge the validity of the National Disaster Management Act and to request a finding by the court that the government is abusing the act.... On Friday, the Helen Suzman Foundation made its legal case against the government, filing urgent papers with the Constitutional Court. It is requesting that the court order Parliament and the executive to take immediate steps to initiate, prepare, consider and pass legislation on Covid-19.”

<https://city-press.news24.com/News/avalanche-of-cases-against-state-on-covid-19-20200524>

Karrim, Azarrah Legal battle looms as Frere Hospital in EC is shut down – report.

2020 May 23 IOL

“A legal battle is looming after health and safety inspectors from the labour department shut down Frere Hospital in East London amid concerns that its measures to prevent the spread of Covid-19 are inadequate, according to a report in DispatchLive.

The department and province's health authorities are set to battle it out over whether labour safety provisions trump the hospital's mandate to provide healthcare and the public's right to treatment during a pandemic.”

<https://www.news24.com/SouthAfrica/News/legal-battle-looms-as-frere-hospital-in-ec-is-shut-down-report-20200523>

Singh, Kaveel. Covid-19: Soup kitchens can no longer be policed or controlled, court says.

2020 May 24 News24

“The government can no longer prevent the distribution of food during the Covid-19 national lockdown after a non-governmental organisation (NGO) - 1 000 Women Trust - approached the courts and won the right to freely assist the hungry.”

<https://www.news24.com/SouthAfrica/News/covid-19-soup-kitchens-can-no-longer-be-policed-or-controlled-court-says-20200524>

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COURTS

Media Comment

News24. I'm deeply worried about the impact of Covid-19 on SA – Chief Justice Mogoeng Mogoeng.

2020 May 24 Daily Maverick

“Mogoeng said Covid-19 and the related lockdown have made a bad situation worse in the judiciary, with cases piling up. Had South Africa's courts been modernised much earlier, he said, virtual court proceedings would not be a foreign concept that was being resisted from some quarters. “The first challenge, speaking for the judiciary, is that we haven't been able to finalise cases as expeditiously as we would want to, as expeditiously as the public is entitled to have us do. The effect of Covid-19 has been to make the situation worse for the judiciary and for the broader public,” Mogoeng said.”

<https://www.dailymaverick.co.za/article/2020-05-24-im-deeply-worried-about-the-impact-of-covid-19-on-sa-chief-justice-mogoeng-mogoeng/>

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CRIMINAL LAW AND PROCEDURE

Internet Articles

Broughton, Tania. “There can be no justification for torture, ever” – top brass tell police.

2020 May 21 Groundup

“In apparent compliance with the Pretoria High Court ruling in the Collins Khosa “lockdown brutality” case, the police commissioner has sent out fresh, detailed guidelines on how South African Police Service (SAPS) and municipal police must conduct themselves. It directs that “there can simply be no justification for torture, ever”.

The [directives](#) caution against “serious and humiliating rights infringements” by arresting and detaining people for lockdown breaches where their attendance at courts can be done through summons or other less intrusive means. Signed on Tuesday by General National Commissioner Khehla Sitole, the memo falls within the two-day deadline set on Friday by Judge Hans Fabricius in a supervisory order that included a ruling that SAPS and the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) command all members to desist from torture or cruel and inhuman treatment.”

<https://www.groundup.org.za/article/there-can-simply-be-no-justification-torture-ever-top-brass-tell-police/>

Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria. Overview of Global and Regional Human Rights Standards on the Police Use of Force. 20 May 2020.

“In *Khosa and others v. Ministry of Defence and others*, in the context of excessive use of force during the COVID-19 lockdown, the High Court in Pretoria ordered the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans and the National Commissioner of the South African Police Service to publish guidelines on, among other things, the use of force by law enforcement officials. This overview introduces the main international instruments and standards on the topic.”

<https://www.up.ac.za/media/shared/10/ICLA/2020/global-and-regional-rules-on-police-use-of-force-20-may-2020.zp190208.pdf>

Media Release

South African Police Service. Minister Bheki Cele: Coronavirus Covid-19 regulations levels of compliance and adherence. 22 May 2020.

Ministerial visits to provinces - Arrests for contravention of regulations - Serious and violent crime - Contact crime 27 March to 19 May 2020 compared to the same period last year - Trio crimes 27 March to 19 May 2020 compared to the same period last year - Cash-in-transit robberies - Drug busts - Multiple murders in KwaZulu-Natal – 7 killed - Gender based violence and domestic violence - Members infected by the Corona Virus - Firearm Amnesty ending 31 May.

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-bheki-cele-coronavirus-covid-19-regulations-levels-compliance-and-adherence-22-may>

Media Statement

SA Government News Agency. Level 4 sees slight crime increase, stats remain low.

2020 May 22 SA News

“While crime in the country continued to remain low during the COVID-19 lockdown, reported cases began to increase after the country moved to level 4 at the beginning of May. This was revealed by Police Minister Bheki Cele on Friday while giving an update on the levels of compliance and adherence to the lockdown regulations in the country. Despite the trends yet to be analysed, Cele said authorities believe that the slight increase is due to the relaxation of the lockdown restrictions. The easing of the lockdown has seen increased movement of people and traffic on the road as more companies have gone back to business again.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/level-4-sees-slight-crime-increase-stats-remain-low>

Police Circular

National Commissioner: South African Police Service. Use of force and torture: guidelines on the implementation and enforcement of regulations and directives issued in terms of section 27 of the Disaster Management Act, 2002 (Act No. 57 of 2002): containment and management of Covid-19. 19 May 2020.

https://www.groundup.org.za/media/uploads/documents/circular_arrest_use_of_force_and_tortue_during_state_of_disater.pdf

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DEEDS OFFICE

Media Comment

Retief, Chanel. Doors of Cape Town Deeds Office remain closed on Friday.

2020 May 22 Daily Maverick

“The Deeds Office in Cape Town was officially closed on Friday “until further notice”, Joseph Dreyer, Deputy Registrar, confirmed to Daily Maverick....

The Law Society of SA tweeted on Friday morning that the Chief Registrar of Deeds “has advised that one of their officials has been exposed to a relative which has tested positive with Covid-19. For this reason, the Cape Town Deeds and SG [Surveyor-General] offices have been closed with immediate effect. The building will be decontaminated.”

<https://www.dailymaverick.co.za/article/2020-05-22-doors-of-cape-town-deeds-office-remain-closed-on-friday/>

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EDUCATION

Media Release

Department of Higher Education, Science and Technology. Minister Blade Nzimande: implementation of measures by the post school education sector in response to Coronavirus Covid-19 pandemic. 23 May 2020.

“Our partnership with the Department of Social Development (DSD) saw a dramatic improvement in approvals for social welfare beneficiaries and more than 240 000 new entrants were approved for funding. Taken together indeed NSFAS is truly providing for the most vulnerable and the poor members of our society by opening up gateways out of poverty. The shift to provide for learning material for NSFAS students to include digital devices will not only address technology enabled pedagogy over the lockdown period but will truly move South African education into the modern era offering access to wider resources and teaching materials. This bold step will also be extended to TVET students for whom access to technology will improve their skills fit for a modern economy.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-blade-nzimande-implementation-measures-post-school-education-sector-response>

Media Statements

SA Government News Agency. Final year students to return to varsity under level 3, free data.

2020 May 23 SA News

“Briefing the media on measures in response to COVID-19, the Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovation, Dr Blade Nzimande, said under level 3 which is still to be announced, a maximum of 33% of the students will be allowed to return to campuses, delivery sites and residences. He told the media this is on condition that the tertiary institutions are in line with the health and safety protocols as directed by the department. Another group of student free to return to university once the country is downgraded from level 4 include the final year and postgraduate students who require access to laboratories, technical equipment, data, connectivity and access to the residence and private accommodation.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/final-year-students-return-varsity-under-level-3-free-data>

SA Government News Agency. KZN, Gauteng assures learners safety, ahead of schools reopening.

2020 May 22 SA News

“As the country prepares for the reopening of schools, the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Government has assured parents and stakeholders that all necessary precautions will be taken to prevent the spread of COVID-19. This follows an announcement by Basic Education Minister Angie Motshekga on Tuesday that schools will reopen, starting with the return of the teachers on 25 May 2020 and the opening of schools on 1 June 2020 with Grade 7 and Grade 12 learners returning to the classroom. The reopening of schools follows the National Coronavirus Command Council and Cabinet’s approval of the Basic Education Department’s plan to return to the classroom in a staggered approach. In a statement issued following a Provincial Executive Council meeting held this week, the council welcomed the detailed plan for the reopening of the schools as presented by Education MEC Kwazi Mshengu.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/kzn-gauteng-assures-learners-safety-ahead-schools-reopening>

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EMPLOYMENT LAW

Media Comment

Karrim, Azarrah Legal battle looms as Frere Hospital in EC is shut down – report.

2020 May 23 IOL

“A legal battle is looming after health and safety inspectors from the labour department shut down Frere Hospital in East London amid concerns that its measures to prevent the spread of Covid-19 are inadequate, according to a report in DispatchLive.

The department and province's health authorities are set to battle it out over whether labour safety provisions trump the hospital's mandate to provide healthcare and the public's right to treatment during a pandemic.”

<https://www.news24.com/SouthAfrica/News/legal-battle-looms-as-frere-hospital-in-ec-is-shut-down-report-20200523>

Media Release

Department of Employment and Labour. Employment and Labour on Gauteng being largest recipient of UIF Coronavirus Covid-19 Relief Benefits. 22 May 2020.

“As expected Gauteng had the highest number of beneficiaries who have been paid COVID-19 TERS benefits. Almost half of the more than R14-billion paid out so far, has been paid to 1 186 833 workers in the province via 79 271 employers... Another important fact is that more and more people are being paid directly even though the claims are submitted by the employers. So far, 78 431 workers have been paid directly a total of R350-million and they are represented by 5 975 employers. According to the Commissioner, employers still have until the end of May to address queries where the UIF has reverted to them with regard to incomplete information. This has resulted with the UIF holding back close to R2.5-billion for 569 418 workers. These claims have been lodged by 78 831 employers.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/covid-19-relief-benefits-22-may-2020-0000>

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FINANCIAL LAW

Media Release

Western Cape Provincial Treasury. MEC David Maynier: Opening of Provincial Treasury’s presentation to Western Cape Parliamentary ad-hoc committee on Coronavirus Covid-19. R1.14b committed towards Covid-19 response in Western Cape. 22 May 2020.

“We are currently projecting a R610 million in own revenue shortfall, at least a R3 billion provincial budget cut and expenditure demand, to fund the Covid-19 response, of at least R2.4 billion in the Western Cape. In the immediate term, Provincial Treasury has taken a number of steps to support key departments like Health, Social Development and Transport and Public Works with streamlined decision-making around supply chain matters to ensure that critical procurement decisions are made as fast as possible, while ensuring full compliance under the emergency procurement protocols put in place by National Treasury. To date, R1.14 billion has been committed towards Covid-19 related expenditure across the Western Cape government.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/mec-david-maynier-opening-provincial-treasury%E2%80%99s-presentation-western-cape-parliamentary-ad>

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HEALTH AND SAFETY

Internet Articles

Damba-Hendrik, Nombulelo. Doctors and nurses down tools at Eastern Cape hospital.

2020 22 May Groundup

"Doctors and nurses downed tools on Wednesday at Mpilisweni Hospital in Sterkspruit, Eastern Cape, demanding personal protective equipment (PPE)... group of 13 health workers from Masonwabe clinic in Ngcobo, near Mthatha, who screen people for Covid-19, told GroundUp that they had been working without PPE for the past two weeks. Engcobo Local Municipality last week said 11 people had tested positive for Covid-19 in the small town."

<https://www.groundup.org.za/article/doctors-and-nurses-down-tools-eastern-cape-hospital/>

Human, Liezl and Geffen, Nathan. Health department boss calls for investigation into Glenda Gray.

2020 May 22 Groundup

"Dr. Anban Pillay, the acting director-general of the Health Department, has requested an investigation into the conduct of Dr. Glenda Gray, the president of the Medical Research Council (MRC), claiming that she has "made a number of false allegations against government... Professor Linda-Gail Bekker, a leading medical researcher based at the Desmond Tutu HIV Foundation, has come out in support of Gray, describing her as a "national treasure". She said that Gray had raised important issues for the "common good" and in the "best interest of the country". The response should not be a witch-hunt but a discussion so that the government, including the Minister of Health Zweli Mkhize, can find the best way to respond to the epidemic. She emphasised that scientists must have the freedom to speak their minds."

<https://www.groundup.org.za/article/health-department-boss-calls-investigation-glenda-gray/>

- See also: Karrim, Azarah. Academic community comes out in support of Prof Gray following health department threats. – 2020 May 23 News 24 at <https://www.news24.com/SouthAfrica/News/academic-community-comes-out-in-support-prof-gray-following-health-department-threats-20200523>

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HOUSING / HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

Media Release

Department of Human Settlements. Minister Lindiwe Sisulu and MEC Lebogang Maile hand over completed housing structure in Roodepoort, 24 May. 23 May 2020.

"Minister of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation, Lindiwe Sisulu, together with the Gauteng MEC of Human Settlements, Urban Planning, Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, Mr Lebogang Maile and Executive Mayor of the City of Johannesburg, Cllr Geoff Makhubo will tomorrow, 24 May 2020 hand over completed housing units to the community of Ikemeleng, in Roodepoort. The Ikemeleng community has been living in tented structures for several years as a result of being evicted from the nearby farms. Their deplorable living conditions made it difficult to adhere to some of the COVID-19 government regulations such as social-distancing and practicing of safe hygiene. Tomorrow their lives will be changed for the better and their dignity restored as the residents move to decent units."

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-lindiwe-sisulu-and-mec-lebogang-maile-hands-over-completed-housing-structure>

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LEGAL PROFESSIONALS

Media Comment

Jordaan, Nomahlubi. Lockdown accelerates Bar Council of the Pretoria Society of Advocates' demise.

2020 May 25 TimesLive

"The declaration of a national state of disaster has catapulted an already financially distressed Bar Council of the Pretoria Society of Advocates into dire straits.

The council decided in principle, at a meeting on Friday, to apply to court for a provisional order of liquidation. It is owed in excess of R8.5m by members and previous members."

<https://www.timeslive.co.za/news/south-africa/2020-05-24-lockdown-accelerates-bar-council-of-the-pretoria-society-of-advocates-demise/>

Letter from Jannet Gildenhuys SC, chairperson of the Pretoria Bar: https://legalbrief.co.za/media/filestore/2020/05/Bar_Letter.pdf

Report

International Law Office. COVID-19 Weekly Report. 18 – 24 May 2020.

<https://www.internationallawoffice.com/files/25.05.pdf>

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LOCKDOWN REGULATIONS

Media Comments

Molosankwe, Botho. Level 3 lockdown: What you should know about booze, cigarettes and hair salons

- “Alcohol will be sold but only for home consumption but the sale of cigarettes will continue to be prohibited for health reasons.
- Workers can start returning to work but employees over the age of 60 with comorbidities should ideally work from home.
- Companies must have a plan before opening and must ensure the daily screening of workers, quarantine those that are affected and assist with tracing those believed to have come into contact with an infected employee.
- Spaza shops, retailers and informal traders will be allowed to trade.
- Bars and taverns will remain closed while restaurants can only open for takeaways, collections and drive-through orders.
- Churches remain closed while the government continues with deep consultation with the religious sectors over how to reopen them.
- Salons and entertainment places remain closed and conferences as well as other events remain prohibited.
- People using public transport will be required to wear masks all the time and keep their distance from other commuters.”

<https://www.iol.co.za/news/south-africa/level-3-lockdown-what-you-should-know-about-booze-cigarettes-and-hair-salons-48466410>

News24. I'm deeply worried about the impact of Covid-19 on SA – Chief Justice Mogoeng Mogoeng.

2020 May 24 Daily Maverick

“Mogoeng said Covid-19 and the related lockdown have made a bad situation worse in the judiciary, with cases piling up. Had South Africa’s courts been modernised much earlier, he said, virtual court proceedings would not be a foreign concept that was being resisted from some quarters.

“The first challenge, speaking for the judiciary, is that we haven’t been able to finalise cases as expeditiously as we would want to, as expeditiously as the public is entitled to have us do. The effect of Covid-19 has been to make the situation worse for the judiciary and for the broader public,” Mogoeng said.”

<https://www.dailymaverick.co.za/article/2020-05-24-im-deeply-worried-about-the-impact-of-covid-19-on-sa-chief-justice-mogoeng-mogoeng/>

Media Release

Department of Arts and Culture. Sport, Arts and Culture on repatriation of 29 South African artists in Turkey. 23 May 2020.

“The Department of Sport, Arts and Culture and the Department of International Relations and Cooperation have managed to coordinate the repatriation of 29 young Musicians/Artists stranded in Turkey. The group was meant to fly home, when flights were grounded due to the Coronavirus pandemic. These artists are said to be from disadvantaged backgrounds and were unable to afford the airfare on a Turkish Air flight that was flying to South Africa on 22 May 2020. The flight was arranged by the Turkish Government to airlift its Nationals stranded in South Africa and neighbouring countries. The 29 artists were part of the 93 South Africans granted approval to board the flight to South Africa. They arrived last night and were taken to a government facility for mandatory quarantine.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/sport-arts-and-culture-repatriation-29-south-african-artists-turkey-23-may-2020-0000>

Media Statements

SA Government News Agency. Further decontamination for W Cape police stations.

2020 May 22 SA News

“With the Western Cape being the hardest hit province so far by the COVID-19 pandemic, it is reported that at least 19 police stations have had to be decontaminated again, says Police Minister Bheki Cele. Updating the media on the levels of compliance and adherence to the lockdown regulations on Friday, Cele said there are about 121 stations countrywide and 40 units where members have tested positive and the premises contaminated. This follows after 611 members of the South African Police Service tested positive for COVID-19, however there have been some recoveries. “So far, we have 611 members that have tested positive for COVID-19 and 101 recoveries, with the Western Cape leading with 441 positive cases, and the Eastern Cape follows, with 47 positive cases,” Cele said. Due to the fear of the virus spreading, some police stations were forced to close down.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/further-decontamination-w-cape-police-stations>

SA Government News Agency. SA moves to alert level 3.

2020 May 24 SA News

“President Cyril Ramaphosa has announced that South Africa will move to alert level 3 with effect from 1 June - with more sectors of the economy opening and the removal of a number of restrictions on the movement of people. Addressing the nation on Sunday evening on the developments in South Africa’s risk-adjusted strategy to manage the spread of COVID-19, the President said the country will have a differentiated approach to deal with areas that have far higher levels of infection and transmission.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/sa-moves-alert-level-3>

Speech

The Presidency. Address by President Cyril Ramaphosa on South Africa's response to the coronavirus pandemic, Union Buildings, Tshwane. 24 May 2020.

<http://www.presidency.gov.za/speeches/address-president-cyril-ramaphosa-south-africa%E2%80%99s-response-coronavirus-pandemic%2C-union-buildings%2C-tshwane-0>

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SOCIAL SECURITY

Media Comment

Singh, Kaveel. Covid-19: Soup kitchens can no longer be policed or controlled, court says.

2020 May 24 News24

“The government can no longer prevent the distribution of food during the Covid-19 national lockdown after a non-governmental organisation (NGO) - 1 000 Women Trust - approached the courts and won the right to freely assist the hungry.”

<https://www.news24.com/SouthAfrica/News/covid-19-soup-kitchens-can-no-longer-be-policed-or-controlled-court-says-20200524>

Media Releases

Department of Social Development. Minister Lindiwe Zulu conducts monitoring visit to a temporary shelter for persons living on the streets and a Child and Youth Care Centre in Middelburg, 24 May. 22 May 2020.

“As part of the ongoing national response measures to contain and mitigate the spread of the coronavirus, the Minister of Social Development - Ms Lindiwe Zulu, will on Sunday, 24 May 2020 conduct a monitoring visit to a temporary shelter for persons living on the streets and a Child and Youth Care Centre in Middelburg, Mpumalanga Province. The purpose of Minister Zulu's visit to the service points is to assess the implementation of the Department's response on COVID-19 and to ensure compliance with the lockdown regulations. In response to the declaration of the state of national disaster by President Cyril Ramaphosa on 15 March 2020, the Department of Social Development is working jointly with municipalities across the country to provide temporary shelters for persons living on the streets (homeless).”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-lindiwe-zulu-conducts-monitoring-visit-temporary-shelter-persons-living-streets>

Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities. Minister Maite Nkoana-Mashabane: webinar on upholding Rights of Persons with Disabilities. 22 May 2020.

“The template is meant to track spending in respect of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities, to various aspects of the fiscal response packages. Some of these measures included in the regulations of the Disaster Management Act, alert levels were done, following wide consultations with the disability sector. The clarion call of Persons with Disabilities is “nothing about us without us” and as Government, we take that very seriously. I have informed my colleagues in the Departments of Social Development, Health and Basic Education, on all issues raised in the letters you sent to the Department and how these impact you in your private and public spaces during the lockdown period. In this context, specific measures are in place to consider universal design and reasonable accommodation as legal requirements and obligations regarding screening, testing and quarantine sites for accessibility purposes.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-maite-nkoana-mashabane-webinar-upholding-rights-persons-disabilities-22-may-2020>

South African Social Security Agency. SASSA on service offices working conditions adherence to Coronavirus Covid-19 lockdown regulations. 22 May 2020.

“Monday and Tuesday: Applications for Old Age Grant only; Wednesday and Thursday: Applications for Child Support Grant and Foster Care Grant only; Friday: Overflow applications from Wednesday and Thursday and Disability grant or Care Dependency grants on an appointment basis where we have received medicals prior to the lockdown and SASSA card issuing, PIN resets and replacement of cards will be done at the South African Post Office (SAPO). Older persons and persons with disabilities social grant beneficiaries payment will be on 03 - 04 June 2020. Other social grants will be paid from 05 May 2020. Where either the 3rd or the 5th falls on a weekend or public holiday the payment date moves forward to the next working day.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/sassa-service-offices-working-conditions-adherence-covid-19-lockdown-regulations-22-may>

Western Cape Department of Social Development. Updated Covid-19 prevention and management protocols for Old Age Homes. 21 May 2020.

“The Western Cape Departments of Social Development and Health have updated and provided practical guidelines for the prevention and management of coronavirus infection in residential facilities, such as Old Age Homes... The following preventative strategies are recommended: Immunization- Provide annual influenza vaccination to employees and residents as these infections are important contributors to respiratory mortality in older people; Basic Infection

Prevention and Control (IPC) measures to prevent the spread of coronavirus; Physical distancing in Residential facilities; Identification of Risk; Daily screening program; Staff member risk assessment; Workplace risk assessment. The Western Cape Minister of Health, Nomafrench Mbombo added: "Part B provides recommendations on what to do if residents and/or staff members are exposed/and or diagnosed with Covid-19 in a residential. In line with the risk approach to case management where vulnerable communities (such as the Aged) will be prioritized, the Health Department will conduct targeted screening and testing in Old Age Homes in hotpot areas."

<https://coronavirus.westerncape.gov.za/news/updated-covid-19-prevention-and-management-protocols-old-age-homes>

SPORT

Media Releases

Gauteng Provincial Legislature. Gauteng Sport, Recreation, Arts and Culture reprioritizes 2020/21 Annual Performance Plan and Allocated Budget. 22 May 2020.

"Gauteng Provincial Legislature Portfolio Committee on Sport, Recreation, Arts and Culture, led by the Chairperson Honourable William Matsheke held a virtual meeting with the Gauteng Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation as part of its oversight mandate. The Portfolio Committee received presentations from the department on their 5 years strategic plans, Annual Performance Plans and Budget Vote 12. During the presentation, the department led by MEC Mbalu Hlophe, Acting HOD Vuyani Mpofo and senior management indicated that the COVID19 pandemic has affected most of the planned activities of the department especially considering the department is one department that is events driven. In most cases most of the events needs a large amount of people and physical contact which is against the regulations of the current lockdown."

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/reprioritize-its-2020-21-fy-annual-performance-22-may-2020-0000>

Gauteng Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation. Gauteng Sport, Arts and Culture on closing date for applications and proposals for funding. 22 May 2020.

"Individuals and Gauteng based sport, recreation, arts and culture organisations have until 29 May 2020 at 16:00 to submit applications for Grant in Aid funding for the 2020/21 (funding) period. The opportunity to apply for these has been open since March this year. The Grant-in-Aid fund is created to support projects on arts, sport, recreation, heritage etc, related to the mandate of the Gauteng Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation (GDSACR). Only Gauteng based organisations can apply and the projects have to be implemented in Gauteng. Application forms are available on www.gauteng.gov.za and can be submitted either online on SACR.Communications@gauteng.gov.za or physically at 35 Rissik Street, Surrey House Building; Corner Fox Street JHB."

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/closing-date-looms-gauteng%E2%80%99s-sport-arts-and-culture-organisations-submit-applications-and>

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TOURISM

Media Statement

SA Government News Agency. President Ramaphosa engages tourism industry.

2020 May 22 SA News

"President Cyril Ramaphosa will this morning hold a virtual engagement with stakeholders in the tourism sector who have sought an opportunity to engage the President on the impact of COVID-19 on the industry and plans to sustain the sector. In mitigation of the impact of the pandemic on tourism, which is the largest source of employment in the country, the Department of Tourism has instituted a Tourism Relief Fund to assist small, micro and medium-sized enterprises affected by lockdown restrictions on the movement of people and the closure of the country's borders. The R200 million Tourism Relief Fund will be disbursed as a once-off R50 000 grant per entity to ensure that businesses survive as the country prepares to reopen more economic activity alongside the primary objective of saving lives in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic."

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/president-ramaphosa-engages-tourism-industry>

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TRADE AND INDUSTRY

Media Statement

SA Government News Agency. R513 million relief fund for SMMEs.

2020 May 22 SA News

“The Small Enterprise Finance Agency (Sefa) has approved payment worth R513 million for small businesses whose finances have been negatively affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. “Since the opening of Small, Medium and Macro Enterprises (SMMEs) Debt Relief Financing Scheme, Sefa has received 35 865 applications of which 14 451 were fully completed whereas 21 414 were incomplete and they were referred to Small Enterprise Development Agency (Seda) for assistance with the applications,” the Department of Small Business Development said on Friday. Of the 14 451 complete applications, Sefa has approved 1 497 applications worth R513 million.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/r513-million-relief-fund-smmes>

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TRANSPORTATION

Government Gazette

Disaster Management Act 57 of 2002

Directions issued in terms of Regulations 4(7)(b), 20(1) and 20(2) of the Regulations made under section 27(2) of the Act: Measures to prevent and combat the spread of COVID-19 in the Public Transport Services: Amendment of GN493 published in GG 43272 of 4 May 2020. by the substitution of direction 8.

RGN587 GG 43348 p3 22May2020

http://www.qpwnline.co.za/Gazettes/Gazettes/43348_22-05_Transport.pdf

Media Statement

SA Government News Agency. Transport service centres to open soon.

2020 May 22 SA News

“Driving Licensing Testing Centres, registering authorities, vehicle testing stations and driving schools will resume their services with effect from 1 June. Addressing the media on Friday during his visit to the Centurion Driving Licensing Testing Centre, Transport Minister Fikile Mbalula said the opening of these services is subject to hygiene, disinfection control, social distancing and sanitizing measures stipulated in the directions. On the 20th of May, the Minister issued directions related to the commencement of services and extension for the validity period of learner’s licence, driving license cards, license disks, professional driving permits and registration of motor vehicles. “All driving licence testing centres, registering authorities, vehicle testing stations and driving schools must, prior to the commencement of their service on 1 June 2020, put in place procedures for the cleaning and disinfection of their premises,” the Minister said.”

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/transport-service-centres-open-soon>

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TRAVEL

Media Release

Department of Home Affairs. Minister Aaron Motsoaledi approves essential travel for South Africans who want to return to countries where they are based during Coronavirus COVID-19 lockdown. 23 May 2020.

“The Minister of Home Affairs, Dr Aaron Motsoaledi has, following consultations with the Department of International Relations and Cooperation and the National Coronavirus Command Council, approved essential travel for South Africans who want to return to countries where they are based. South Africans who wish to leave the Republic are permitted to depart only for the following reasons: Work, study, family reunion, take up permanent residency or receive medical attention. South Africa, like many countries in the world, has implemented travel restrictions as part of the measures put in place to fight the spread of Covid-19. Travel between countries is allowed in special circumstances.”

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/minister-aaron-motsoaledi-approves-essential-travel-south-africans-who-want-return>

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