



OFFICE OF THE JUDGE PRESIDENT
MR JUSTICE E.M MAKGOBA

HIGH COURT OF SOUTH AFRICA, LIMPOPO DIVISION, POLOKWANE

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18 February 2021

JUDGE PRESIDENT'S DIRECTIVE NO 02/2021

**TO: ALL LEGAL PRACTITIONERS
ALL REGISTRARS**

RE: RULE 37 OF THE UNIFORM RULES OF COURT

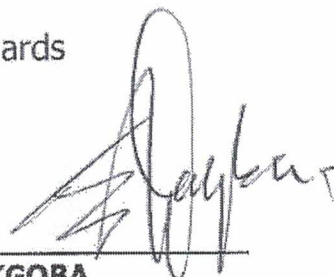
1. The Office of the Judge President is inundated with a lot of correspondence from legal practitioners wherein they complain that their colleagues do not co-operate when requested to hold pre-trial conferences in terms of Rule 37 of the Uniform Rules of Court.
2. This state of affairs is unfortunate and undesirable as it delays the case flow management process and the ultimate hearing of matters on trial.
3. Uniform Rule 37 and the related provisions of the Practice Manual and Directives require of the parties to constructively engage with each other in pre-trial proceedings to narrow the issues that remain in dispute.

4. I accordingly give a directive that should a matter come before Court on trial without pre-trial minutes having filed, the presiding Judge shall order the parties to hold the pre-trial conference there and then before the trial proceeds.

In that event an appropriate costs order shall be made against the defaulting party.

I trust that all legal practitioners will comply with this simple Rule 37 regarding attendance of pre-trial conference.

Kind regards



E M MAKGOBA
JUDGE PRESIDENT OF THE HIGH
COURT, LIMPOPO DIVISION





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02 March 2021

JUDGE PRESIDENT'S DIRECTIVE NO 03/2021

TO: ALL LEGAL PRACTITIONERS

REGISTRARS AT LIMPOPO DIVISION, POLOKWANE

LIMPOPO LOCAL DIVISION, THOHOYANDOU

RE: CIVIL TRIALS

1. I have noticed that most of the civil cases, in particular the non-RAF cases which are put on the roll for hearing on Mondays are not proceeding to trial but either removed from the roll or postponed *sine die*.
2. This is so because such matters had been placed on the trial roll when they are not trial ready.
3. I hereby direct that all non-RAF matters shall be subjected to a judicial pre-trial conference in terms of Rule 37(8) and no matters will be placed on the roll unless same have been certified trial ready.

This directive shall operate with **immediate effect** and all matters that have already been placed on the roll shall be subjected to the judicial pre-trial conference a week before the trial date on the following Monday.



4. The RAF matters are excluded from the judicial pre-trial conference due to the fact that there are no opposing parties at the trial.

Kind regards



E M MAKGOBA
JUDGE PRESIDENT OF THE HIGH
COURT, LIMPOPO DIVISION

