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Justice and Constitutional Development
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

REGIONAL OFFICE: NORTHERN CAPE

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The Legal Practice Counsel
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Attention : Alida

RE : VIRTUAL COURT APPEARANCES : AUDIO VISUAL LINKS : COVID-19

The above matter and discussions with the Chief Magistrate and Regional Court President refer.

In pursuance of the objectives set out by the President of the Republic of South Africa and in line with the various regulations and directives implemented to contain the spread of Covid – 19, the need to utilise electronic platforms to facilitate social distancing in respect of court proceedings have been identified.

Although steps have been taken to realise the aforesaid objective your support and contribution within the justice value chain are of paramount importance to the success hereof.

To this end legal practitioners are encouraged to, if not already done, activate or install enabling software applications preferable MS Teams, to make virtual court appearance possible.

We are in the process of preparing and testing audio visual link options in consultation with the lower court judiciary and other stakeholders.

This communique serves as a formal appeal to all private legal practitioners to assist, in the aforesaid manner. A copy of this letter will be communicated to the Chief Magistrate and Regional Court President's office.

For any enquiries please contact Ms. S. Segopa at 053-8021380.

Thanking You in anticipation.

Adv. D. Plaatjies
Acting Regional Head : Northern Cape : Kimberley

5/6/2020