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## GOVERNMENT NOTICES GOEWERMENSKENNISGEWINGS

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### DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTEMENT VAN JUSTISIE EN STAATKUNDIGE ONTWIKKELING

No. R. 471

12 July 2013

#### AMENDMENT OF THE RULES REGULATING THE CONDUCT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE SEVERAL PROVINCIAL AND LOCAL DIVISIONS OF THE HIGH COURT OF SOUTH AFRICA

The Rules Board for Courts of Law has under section 6 of the Rules Board for Courts of Law Act, 1985 (Act No. 107 of 1985), with the approval of the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development, made the rules in the Schedule.

#### SCHEDULE

#### GENERAL EXPLANATORY NOTE:

- [ ] Expressions in bold type in square brackets indicate omissions from existing rules.  
\_\_\_ Expressions underlined with a solid line indicate insertions into existing rules.

#### Definition

1. In this Schedule "the Rules" means the rules regulating the conduct of the proceedings of the several provincial and local divisions of the High Court of South Africa published under Government Notice No. R. 48 of 12 January 1965, as amended by Government Notices No R. 235 of 18 February 1966, R. 2004 of 15 December 1967, R. 3553 of 17 October 1969, R. 2021 of 5 November 1971, R. 1985 of 3 November 1972, R. 480 of 30 March 1973, R. 639 of 4 April 1975, R. 1816 of 8 October 1976, R. 1975 of 29 October 1976, R. 2477 of 17 December 1976, R. 2365 of 18 November 1977, R. 1546 of 28 July 1978, R. 1577 of 20 July 1979, R. 1535 of 25

July 1980, R. 2527 of 5 December 1980, R. 500 of 12 March 1982, R. 773 of 23 April 1982, R. 775 of 23 April 1982, R. 1873 of 3 September 1982, R. 2171 of 6 October 1982, R. 645 of 25 March 1983, R. 841 of 22 April 1983, R. 1077 of 20 May 1983, R. 1996 of 7 September 1984, R. 2094 of 13 September 1985, R. 810 of 2 May 1986, R. 2164 of 2 October 1987, R. 2642 of 27 November 1987, R. 1421 of 15 July 1988, R. 210 of 10 February 1989, R. 608 of 31 March 1989, R. 2628 of 1 December 1989, R. 185 of 2 February 1990, R. 1929 of 10 August 1990, R. 1262 of 30 May 1991, R. 2410 of 30 September 1991, R. 2845 of 29 November 1991, R. 406 of 7 February 1992, R. 1883 of 3 July 1992, R. 109 of 22 January 1993, R. 960 of 28 May 1993, R. 974 of 1 June 1993, R. 1356 of 30 July 1993, R. 1843 of 1 October 1993, R. 2365 of 10 December 1993, R. 2529 of 31 December 1993, R. 181 of 28 January 1994, R. 411 of 11 March 1994, R. 873 of 31 May 1996, R. 1063 of 28 June 1996, R. 1557 of 20 September 1996, R. 1746 of 25 October 1996, R. 2047 of 13 December 1996, R. 417 of 14 March 1997, R. 491 of 27 March 1997, R. 700 of 16 May 1997, R. 798 of 13 June 1997, R. 1352 of 10 October 1997, R. 785 of 5 June 1998, R. 881 of 26 June 1998, R. 1024 of 7 August 1998, R. 1723 of 30 December 1998, R. 315 of 12 March 1999, R. 568 of 30 April 1999, R. 1084 of 10 September 1999, R. 1299 of 29 October 1999, R. 502 of 19 May 2000, R. 849 of 25 August 2000, R. 373 of 30 April 2001, R. 1088 of 26 October 2001, R. 1755 of 5 December 2003, R. 229 of 20 February 2004, R. 1343 of 12 December 2008, R. 1345 of 12 December 2008, R. 516 of 8 May 2009, R. 518 of 8 May 2009, R. 86 of 12 February 2010, R. 87 of 12 February 2010, R. 88 of 12 February 2010, R. 89 of 12 February 2010, R. 90 of 12 February 2010, R. 500 of 11 June 2010, R. 591 of 09 July 2010, R. 980 of 19 November 2010, R. 981 of 19 November 2010, R. 464 of 22 June 2012, R. 992 of 7 December 2012, R. 114 of 15 February 2013 and R. 262 of 12 April 2013.

### **Amendment of rule 31 of the Rules**

2. Rule 31 of the Rules is hereby amended by the amendment of sub rule (5) as follows:

“(5) (a) Whenever a defendant is in default of delivery of notice of intention to defend or of a plea, the plaintiff, if he or she wishes to obtain judgment by default, shall where each of the claims is for a debt or liquidated demand, file with the registrar a written application for judgment against such defendant: Provided that when a defendant is in default of delivery of a plea, the plaintiff shall give such defendant not less than 5 days' notice of his or her intention to apply for default judgment.

(b) The registrar may-

- (i) grant judgment as requested;
- (ii) grant judgment for part of the claim only or on amended terms;
- (iii) refuse judgment wholly or in part;
- (iv) postpone the application for judgment on such terms as he or she may consider just;
- (v) request or receive oral or written submissions;
- (vi) require that the matter be set down for hearing in open court:

Provided that if the application is for an order declaring residential property specially executable, the registrar must refer such application to the court.

(c) The registrar shall record any judgment granted or direction given by him or her.

(d) Any party dissatisfied with a judgment granted or direction given by the registrar may, within 20 days after **[he]** such party has acquired knowledge of such judgment or direction, set the matter down for reconsideration by the court.

(e) The registrar shall grant judgment for costs in an amount of R200 plus the sheriff's fees if the value of the claim as stated in the summons, apart from any consent to jurisdiction, is within the jurisdiction of the magistrate's court and, in other cases, unless the application for default judgment requires costs to be taxed or the registrar requires a decision on costs from the Court, R650 plus the sheriff's fees."

### **Commencement**

**3. This rule shall come into operation on 16 August 2013.**