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GENERAL NOTICES • ALGEMENE KENNISGEWINGS

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT**NOTICE 921 OF 2017****INVITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS****DRAFT REGULATIONS RELATING TO SEXUAL OFFENCES COURTS: CRIMINAL LAW (SEXUAL OFFENCES AND RELATED MATTERS) AMENDMENT ACT, 2007 (ACT NO. 32 OF 2007)**

1. The Department of Justice and Constitutional Development invites interested parties to submit written comments on the revised draft Regulations relating to Sexual Offences Courts, 2017 (the draft Regulations).
2. Sections 55A and 67 of the Criminal Law (Sexual Offences and Related Matters) Amendment Act, 2007 (Act No. 32 of 2007), enable the Minister of Justice and Correctional Services to—
 - (a) establish, by notice in the *Gazette*, courts as sexual offences courts to deal with sexual offences cases; and
 - (b) make regulations necessary to give effect to the established sexual offences courts, including the requirements for the efficient and effective functioning thereof.(See the Judicial Matters Second Amendment Act, 2013 (Act 43 of 2013 read with sections 35 and 38 of the Judicial Matters Amendment Act, 2017 (Act 8 of 2017), which are not yet in operation.)
3. Draft Regulations relating to sexual offences courts were published for public comments on 30 September 2015 in Government Notice No. 899 of 30 September 2015. Since then changes have been effected to the draft Regulations in view of the comments received and due to circumstances that have changed. It is therefore deemed advisable to allow for a further process of consultation with interested parties.
4. A copy of the draft Regulations is available on the website of the Department at <http://www.justice.gov.za>.
5. The comments on the draft Regulations must be submitted to Ms A Van der Walt or Dr I Botha, on or before **31 January 2018**. The contact details are:
 - (a) Postal address:
The Director-General: Justice and Constitutional Development
Private Bag X 81
Pretoria
0001;
 - (b) e-mail address:
alvanderwalt@justice.gov.za or inbotha@justice.gov.za
 - (c) Fax nr:
0866480963
6. Further information can be obtained from Ms A van der Walt at 012 406 4767 or Dr I Botha at 012 406 4756.

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