

**THE JUDICIAL SERVICE COMMISSION'S GUIDELINES FOR DELIVERY OF
RESERVED JUDGMENTS IN THE HIGH COURT OF NAMIBIA,
ADOPTED BY THE JUDGE-PRESIDENT OF THE HIGH COURT IN
CONSULTATION WITH THE JUDICIAL SERVICE COMMISSION**

NO.	NATURE OF CASE	TIME FOR DELIVERY
1.	Opposed Motions: involving declaration of unconstitutionality of legislation, common law or other conduct	8 Months
	Review Applications	8 Months
2.	Other Opposed Motions	6 Months
3.	Urgent Applications	3 Weeks
4.	Simple Trial Actions (Civil)	4 Months
5.	Complex Trial Actions (Civil)	8 Months
6.	Bail Appeals	4 Weeks
7.	Simple Criminal Trials	4 Months
8.	Complex Criminal Trials	12 Months
9.	Civil, Criminal and Labour Appeals	6 Months
10.	Rule 6(11)[Interlocutory] and Rule 43 Applications	2 Weeks: Ordinarily only an order to be made, unless reasons requested in writing in which event reasons to be provided within 4 weeks from the date of such request.
11.	Application for Leave to Appeal	2 Weeks
	Criminal Sentence	2 weeks
	Special Pleas	4 weeks
	Trial Within A Trial	4 weeks
	Reasons	4 weeks
	Exception	2 weeks
	Rescission	2 weeks
	Bail application	1 week
12.	Exceptionally, on account of the special complexity of the matter or circumstances warranting different consideration, a matter will, in consultation between the presiding Judge and the Judge-President, be treated differently from what is stated in the guidelines.	

Note to Guidelines

- a) Concern is being expressed with increasing regularity by members of the public and the organized legal profession about what is perceived as inordinate delays by High Court judges in delivering reserved judgments; and
- b) Any perception that judges are not accountable and lack self-discipline erodes public confidence in the senior judiciary. It has therefore become necessary to lay down some guidelines for judges against which to measure complaints against judges for undelivered judgments.
- c) Should a judge, for any reason, not be in position to keep to the suggested deadline in a particular case, it is expected that such judge will take the initiative of discussing the matter with the Judge-President so that an objective assessment is made of when it would be most reasonable for the judgment to be delivered beyond the present guidelines, so that the parties are informed about the delay.
- d) The guidelines take effect on 1st December 2009.