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CONTENTS • INHOUD

No.

Page
No. Gazette
No.**GOVERNMENT NOTICE****Justice and Correctional Services, Department of***Government Notice*

963	Sheriffs Act (90/1986): Description of service areas in respect of sheriffs affected by the rationalisation of magisterial districts	3	38269
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GOVERNMENT NOTICE

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

No. 963

28 November 2014

DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE AREAS IN RESPECT OF SHERIFFS AFFECTED BY THE RATIONALISATION OF MAGISTERIAL DISTRICTS

It is hereby made known that the Minister of Justice and Correctional Services will, in terms of section 3(2)(a) of the Sheriffs Act, 1986 (Act No. 90 of 1986), describe service areas in respect of sheriffs who are affected by the rationalisation of magisterial districts which commences on 1 December 2014 in the Gauteng and North West provinces. The contemplated description of service area(s) is with a view to allocating any area that has been excised from the original service areas of a sheriff as a result of the outcome of the rationalisation process to the sheriff concerned.

The Department of Justice and Constitutional Development, after consulting the South African Board for Sheriffs, published a bid inviting bidders to submit proposals to undertake the investigation required in terms of regulation 2E of the Sheriffs Regulations. The bid was published in the Government Gazette of 21 October 2014. A successful bidder will be appointed by mid-January for the investigation to commence soon thereafter.

The investigation will first commence in respect of the Gauteng and North West provinces and will thereafter run concurrent with the rollout of the rationalisation of magisterial districts' project country-wide.

Until such time that the description of service areas contemplated above has taken place, any sheriff will continue to serve process in respect of an area that has been excised from the original service area of the sheriff concerned. Acting appointments will be made where necessary to facilitate this process.

The South African Board for Sheriffs as well as sheriffs and stakeholders affected by the description of service areas contemplated above will be consulted as part of the investigation undertaken under regulation 2E of the Sheriffs Regulations.

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