

KEY UPDATES – STATE OF DISASTER REGULATIONS

GAZETTED ON 16 APRIL 2020

We have followed with interest the on-line discussions and comments about these latest amendments, which were Gazetted and presented to the Press by the various Cabinet Ministers on 16 April.

In some sense they are a 'relaxation' of the lockdown measures but mainly, this is only insofar as it has become impractical not to make these changes.

So before you rush out to *Midas* for to buy those fluffy car seat covers (or anything else for that matter) or to your local *Builders Express* for some paint & Bostik, for all those jobs around the home that you now have ample time for.....please take a careful read of the changes, so that you do not receive a visit at you home, from a friendly SAPS member, after your purchase or trip.

Suspension of visits

All visits by members of the public to correctional centres, remand detention facilities, holding cells, military detention facilities, and Department of Social Development facilities, including child and youth care centres, shelters, one stop centres, and treatment centres, are suspended for the period of lockdown.

Transportation of liquor

Still prohibited, except where required for producing hand sanitizer, disinfectants, soap, etc.

If you have any liquor stored in your vehicle, for whatever reason, you should take it out if you use that vehicle to go to the shop, offices, etc. You may be unable to convince SAPS otherwise, of your intentions.

Transportation of goods

The following goods can be transported during the lockdown.

- essential goods (was a given up to now but not stated in the Regulations)
- cargo from ports of entry to intended destination
- cargo at ports of entry for export, to decongest the ports

Additional essential goods

- hardware components & supplies required by qualified tradespersons solely for emergency repairs at residential homes - you cannot go and buy plumbing supplies at your local hardware depot, to do your own repairs at home, but you can call a qualified plumber if it's an emergency repair
- hardware components & supplies required by a business or person engaged in providing essential services, for any project relating to water, electricity or other essential service
- components for vehicles undergoing emergency repairs, where the vehicle is used by a person engaged in essential services work (e.g. you cannot take your car for a general service, or even an emergency repair); as an essential services person you can get a puncture repaired, battery replaced or some other emergency repair to your vehicle
- fish buyers and sellers ('langanas') with municipal permits, along with informal fruit & veg sellers – also with permits

Important Note:

Stores selling hardware products and vehicle components must maintain a register of persons buying essential goods. The buyer will be required to complete a Form and sign a declaration to the effect that the goods listed on the form are essential (and of course that they are an essential service worker).

Movement of children

- Movement of children between parents who are co-holders of parental responsibilities and rights, or a care-giver, is permitted but
 - only in terms of a court order; or
 - an agreement or parenting plan registered with the family advocate; or (*I am of the view that this “or” should have been “and”*)
 - the co-holder has the birth certificate or certified copy thereof, of the child(ren), to prove a legitimate relationship between the co-holders (*not well worded..*)
- the person transporting the child must have the court order or parental agreement or plan, or the birth certificate of the child(ren)

Evictions

No person may be evicted from their residence for the duration of the lockdown, whether it is

- a formal residence
- an informal residence (e.g. a shack)
- or a farm dwelling

New Chapter in Regulations (Ch 4)

Provides for energy (e.g. coal deliveries to Eskom) & petroleum products supply (e.g. oil refineries, smelters etc.) & mining, to continue/commence/ramp up operations.

The commencement of mining operations is subject to extensive conditions set out in the Regulations.

Added / amended essential services

- Call centres providing the following services:
 - health
 - safety
 - social support
 - government & financial services (e.g. the UIF for the Covid19 TERS benefits)
 - debt restructuring for retail consumers
 - access to short-term insurance policies (e.g. for reduced or loss of income)
- Mining (was “essential” mining)
- Trades undertaking emergency repair work including (*these are not the only trades*):
 - plumbers
 - electricians
 - locksmiths
 - glaziers
 - roof repairers
- Trades necessary for emergency vehicle repairs for persons rendering essential services (e.g. Bosch Auto, Battery Centre, etc.)
- Information & communication technology (ICT) services provided to essential services businesses

KEEP SAFE SO YOU CAN KEEP OTHERS SAFE