



KNOW THE LAW

The superior newsletter from Clientèle Legal

UNCONTESTED DIVORCE? CALL YOUR LAWYER



Johan Stapelberg – Actual client



About one in four marriages in South Africa end in divorce before their 10 year anniversary. The global COVID-19 pandemic has not helped, as people experience additional anxiety in their lives and relationships. “In South Africa, there has been a 20% increase in divorce applications since lockdown,” explains Jeremiah Moodley from Clientèle Legal. He says this appears to be in line with international trends in terms of divorce stats in China and Saudi Arabia, amongst others, also showing an increase. “Quarantine and money stress seem to add to the pressure. At the end of the day, for whatever reason, the love, respect and affection between the parties break down. Clientèle Legal is there to make this unbearable situation a little easier to cope with. We have qualified lawyers to guide you through the process of an uncontested divorce. We will even go to court with you, when necessary.”

Johan Stapelberg says he was very happy with the prompt and affordable service from Clientèle Legal: “Clientèle Legal appointed an attorney. Within 2 weeks, the settlement was drawn up and soon thereafter the divorce was finalised, to my great relief.”

(sources: www.iol.co.za/29June2020/sa-divorce-rate-on-the-rise-during-lockdown)

(Stats SA: Marriages and Divorces 2016)

LAWYER’S TIP

The tougher the times are, the more you need your lawyer. For your convenience and safety, we are now also available via Zoom. Email us at lawyers@clientele.co.za to make an appointment.



Jeremiah Moodley – Clientèle Legal

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TOP THREE THINGS TO KNOW

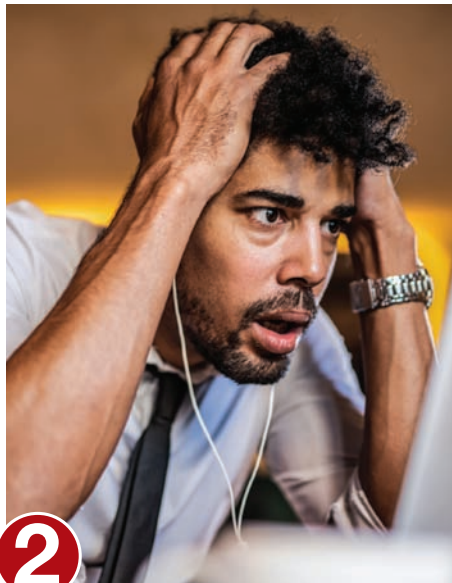
RENTAL DISPUTES DURING LOCKDOWN



1

CAN I BE BLACKLISTED FOR FAILING TO PAY RENT?

Generally, yes, if the landlord follows the breach process, as per your lease agreement and as set out by the Consumer Protection Act and the Rental Housing Act, before reporting the default to the credit bureau. The breach notice must be served in accordance with relevant lockdown regulations.



2

CAN I BE EVICTED?

Yes, from Level 2 downwards, it is possible to evict someone if a competent court has granted an order authorizing the eviction. A Court will look at each application on a case by case basis, and will only allow eviction under strict circumstances.



3

CAN I MOVE TO A NEW HOUSE?

Yes, during Levels 4 and 3 and below, you may move residence. You may require a permit from the SAPS to do so, if the actual move happens outside of curfew times.

It is important to communicate with your landlord as to what your intentions are.



STRANGE LAWS AROUND THE WORLD

If you own any chickens in Quitman, Georgia, USA it is illegal to let them cross the road!

(Simply put, the law essentially wants owners to have their chickens under control at all times.)



IN THE NEWS

BE LEGALLY PROTECTED DURING COVID-19

While the COVID-19 pandemic has required all of us to re-negotiate a 'new normal,' Clientèle Legal is still there to take care of your legal matters and fight for your rights. The lockdown has brought with it a new area of legal complexities, but our nationwide panel of professional attorneys are standing by to fight for your rights. During this time, we have helped many clients with UIF and TERS disputes, queries about lockdown regulations, labour matters, rental disputes and the drawing up of a Will.

CASE STUDIES

In one case, a client was arrested for being outside of his premises during Level 5. Despite his argument that he momentarily exited his premises to allow his tenant to park, he was arrested, a clear case of abuse of the law by an unscrupulous police officer. Clientèle Legal represented and guided the client through the process.

In a labour-related case a client was arrested for allegedly allowing farm workers to work during lockdown. With the intervention of our attorneys the charges were dropped.

During lockdown we successfully arbitrated in a labour case in favour of a client who was unfairly demoted. We secured an amount of R168,000 for him. We also managed to secure bail for a client during a dispute in which it was alleged he allowed more than 100 clients into his shop at a time.

Clientèle Legal are experts in South African circumstances and take pride in offering a comprehensive range of legal services. As your legal partner we strongly advise all citizens to respect lockdown regulations, not only for the safety of yourself and your family, but to avoid a criminal record.

CAN I BE ARRESTED FOR NOT WEARING A MASK?



No. While it is not a criminal offence to not wear a mask, it is important to know that if confronted by an enforcement officer about not wearing it, to cooperate. You can be arrested for interfering with or obstructing an enforcement officer from exercising his/her powers. The penalty for this can be a fine and/or 6 months imprisonment.

You cannot get a criminal record for not wearing a mask but the owner of the building can be sanctioned for allowing you to enter without one.

It is mandatory to wear a mask in public places. Wear your mask, it's the smart thing to do.

(Source: News24/16July/analysis)

DID YOU KNOW?



Clientèle
LEGAL

Online consultations now available via Zoom.

The safety of our staff is of top concern to Clientèle Legal. We have re-structured our offices to ensure the highest standards of hygiene and social distancing protocols. It is also important to make sure our clients still have access to our network of professional lawyers and advisers countrywide. For your safety and convenience we now offer online consultations via Zoom.

To book your appointment you can call our call centre on 011 320 3020 to request a Zoom consultation or you can send an e-mail to lawyers@clientele.co.za. An advisor will forward you a Zoom meeting with the relevant link. Meetings will be recorded for your protection.

Talk to your lawyer!



TESTIMONIALS



Debt collection

"Clientèle Legal has come to my rescue more than once. It makes sense to have a legal policy. Do the maths."

Lefaladi Makgamatha



MVA

"It was me and Clientèle Legal against a very big company and I won."

Thank you."

Nkululeko Zondo

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If you would like to receive this newsletter send an e-mail to: knowthelaw@clientelelegal.co.za (please include your name and policy number)

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This is a monthly renewable policy with premiums and benefits escalating by 10% annually. For policy terms and conditions visit www.clientele.co.za or contact us on 011 320 3000.

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