



MINUTE

**Chambers of the Chief Justice
The Supreme Court of ESwatini
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MBABANE

ESWATINI

H100

FROM: THE HONOURABLE CHIEF JUSTICE

TO: HONOURABLE JUDGES OF THE HIGH
COURT

REGISTRAR OF THE HIGH COURT

YOUR WORSHIPS THE PRINCIPAL
MAGISTRATES

DATE: 22ND JANUARY, 2025

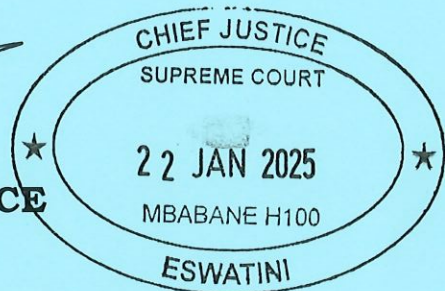
RE: PRACTICE DIRECTIVE 1/2025

1. Due to the serious backlog of cases pending before the High Court, all rape and robbery

cases will be heard by the Principal Magistrate's Court with effect from the date of signature hereof.

2. All part-heard cases of rape and robbery pending before the High Court will proceed to finality before that Court for purposes of consistency.
3. All fresh cases of rape and robbery pending before the High Court will be referred to the Principal Magistrate's Court for enrolment and trial.
4. Where the Principal Magistrate, after due conviction of the accused on a charge of rape or robbery or both is of the opinion that the sentence of imprisonment likely to be imposed upon the accused will exceed the jurisdiction of that court, he will refer that case to the High Court for sentencing before a Judge.


M. C. B. MAPHALALA
HONOURABLE CHIEF JUSTICE



Cc: The Director of Public Prosecutions

The National Commissioner of Police

**The Commissioner General of Correctional
Services**

All Practising Attorneys