



a world class African city

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**MEDIA RELEASE
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City of Johannesburg Welcomes Judgment Reinforcing the Rule of Law

The City of Johannesburg welcomes the judgment delivered by Judge Adams J in relation to the urgent application concerning Marble Towers, situated at 206 Rahima Moosa Street in the Johannesburg Inner City. The ruling reaffirms the City's unwavering commitment to upholding the rule of law, safeguarding public safety and ensuring regulatory compliance.

The Court's decision underscores the critical importance of complying with the National Building Regulations and Building Standards Act and serves as a reminder that safety and compliance are fundamental to sustainable urban development. The judgment further highlights the responsibility of property owners to operate within the framework of the law and to engage constructively with the City when seeking approval for building alterations or developments. Importantly, the Court also criticised the applicant for failing to comply with multiple notices issued by the City and ordered the applicant to bear the City's legal costs.

The City remains firmly committed to protecting the safety and wellbeing of all residents. This ruling reinforces the City's obligation to enforce building regulations and shield communities from the risks associated with unlawful and unsafe structures. It sends a clear message that compliance with applicable laws and regulations is not optional, but a fundamental responsibility of every property owner.

The City further acknowledges the Court's clarification that, although enforcement action is justified, any demolition processes must be undertaken in accordance with the applicable legal framework.

The City appreciates the role of the judiciary in preserving the integrity of Johannesburg's urban landscape and ensuring accountability.

The City of Johannesburg remains committed to fostering an environment in which lawful conduct is encouraged and constructive partnerships between property owners and the municipality can thrive.

This judgment strengthens the City's broader programme to reclaim and revitalise the Johannesburg Inner City and reaffirms the City's leadership commitment to building a safer, cleaner, compliant, and investment-friendly city.

The City of Johannesburg is reclaiming Johannesburg one block and one precinct at a time.

Residents and property owners are urged to comply with all legal and regulatory frameworks governing construction, development and land use.

ENDS

Issued by the City of Joburg

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