

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 08-16

(Order of Succession if Chief Judge Absent or Disabled)

WHEREAS, the order of succession in case of absence or disability of the Chief Judge of the Superior Court is currently addressed by D.C. Official Code (2001 Ed.) § 11-907(a), which specifies that the duties of the Chief Judge shall devolve upon an associate judge whom the Chief Judge designates in writing; and

WHEREAS, an advanced written designation of associate judges to perform the duties of the office of chief judge is necessary to provide an orderly succession of authority in the event the Chief Judge unexpectedly dies or becomes disabled or is absent and cannot be located within twenty-four hours without having designated an acting chief judge in writing;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is by the Court,

ORDERED, if, at a time when he or she has not designated an acting chief judge in writing (including by e-mail), the Chief Judge dies, is absent and cannot be located for more than twenty-four hours or becomes unable to perform the duties of office, the following associate judges shall assume the powers and duties of chief judge in the order in which they are ready, willing and able to assume such powers and duties:

Presiding Judge of the Criminal Division
Presiding Judge of the Family Court
Presiding Judge of the Civil Division
Presiding Judge of the Probate and Tax Divisions
Deputy Presiding Judge of the Criminal Division
Deputy Presiding Judge of the Family Court
Deputy Presiding Judge of the Civil Division
Deputy Presiding Judge of the Probate and Tax Divisions; and it is

further,

ORDERED, authority to act as Chief Judge shall devolve under this Administrative Order only for so long as the Chief Judge or the next preceding designee shall remain absent or disabled or until the D.C. Judicial Nomination Commission, acting pursuant to D.C. Official Code (2001 Ed.) § 1-204.31(b), designates a chief judge, whichever period is shorter; and it is further,

ORDERED, in the absence of action by the D.C. Commission on Judicial Disabilities and Tenure or the D.C. Court of Appeals pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 1-204.32, disability of the Chief Judge or any associate judge to whom the powers and duties of the office of chief judge have devolved under this order shall be

determined by his or her written declaration or by affirmative vote of a three-fifths majority of associate judges then in active service; and it is further,

ORDERED, this order does not address removal and suspension for disciplinary reasons, which remain subject to the pertinent provisions of D.C. Official Code § 1-204.32.

SO ORDERED.

BY THE COURT

September 24, 2008

/s/

Rufus G. King, III
Chief Judge

Attachments:

Time to Disposition Standards
Excludable Time

Copies to:

Judges
Senior Judges
Magistrate Judges
Executive Officer
Clerk of the Court
Division Directors
Director, Office of Strategic Management
Library
Daily Washington Law Reporter
Gideon Website
DC Bar Webmaster