



# Administration of Justice Act 1977

## 1977 CHAPTER 38

### PART II

#### ENGLAND AND WALES

#### *Supreme Court*

#### 10 Appointment to office

- (1) The following section shall be substituted for section 116 of the Supreme Court of Judicature (Consolidation) Act 1925:—

**“116 Appointment of deputies and temporary appointments.**

- (1) If it appears to the Lord Chancellor that it is expedient to do so in order to facilitate the disposal of business in the Supreme Court, he may appoint a person—
- (a) to act as a deputy for any officer of the Supreme Court, or
  - (b) to act as a temporary additional officer in any office in the Supreme Court,
- during such period or on such occasions as the Lord Chancellor thinks fit.
- (2) Subject to subsection (3) below, a person shall not be qualified for appointment under this section if the office in which he would act by virtue of the appointment is one to which he would not be qualified for permanent appointment.
- (3) A master of the Supreme Court shall be qualified to be appointed to act as a deputy for a registrar in bankruptcy of the High Court.
- (4) A person acting in an office by virtue of an appointment under this section shall have all the powers of a person permanently appointed to that office.

---

*Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted). This item of legislation is currently only available in its original format.*

---

- (5) The Lord Chancellor may pay to any person appointed under this section such remuneration and allowances as he may, with the consent of the Minister for the Civil Service, determine.”.
- (2) The qualifications for appointment to offices in the Supreme Court shall be extended as mentioned in subsection (3) below.
- (3) There may be appointed—
- (a) to the office of Registrar of Criminal Appeals, any barrister or solicitor of not less than ten years' standing (whether practising or not);
  - (b) to the office of Assistant Registrar of Criminal Appeals, any barrister or solicitor of not less than seven years' standing (whether practising or not);
  - (c) to the office of Registrar in Bankruptcy of the High Court, any holder of one of the following offices, namely—
    - (i) district registrar, and
    - (ii) county court registrar;
  - (d) to the office of Master, Chancery Division, any holder of one of the following offices, namely—
    - (i) Master, Taxing Office,
    - (ii) Official Solicitor, and
    - (iii) county court registrar ;
  - (e) to the office of Master, Taxing Office, any holder of the office of Official Solicitor ;
  - (f) to the office of Official Solicitor, any solicitor of not less than ten years' standing (whether practising or not);
  - (g) to the office of registrar of the Principal Registry of the Family Division, any holder of the office of district registrar or county court registrar; and
  - (h) to the office of district probate registrar, any person who has served not less than five years as a clerk in the Principal Registry of the Family Division or a district probate registry.
- (4) Accordingly—
- (a) the following subsection shall be substituted for section 126(3) of the Supreme Court of Judicature (Consolidation) Act 1925 (which specifies the qualifications for appointment to certain offices):—
    - “(3) A person shall not be qualified—
      - (a) to be appointed a registrar of the Principal Registry of the Family Division, unless he is—
        - (i) a practising barrister or solicitor of not less than ten years' standing, or
        - (ii) a district registrar, or
        - (iii) a county court registrar, or
        - (iv) a district probate registrar of not less than five years' standing,
 or has served not less than ten years as a clerk in the Principal Registry of the Family Division; or
      - (b) to be appointed a district probate registrar unless he is—
        - (i) a practising barrister or solicitor of not less than five years' standing, or

---

*Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted). This item of legislation is currently only available in its original format.*

---

- (ii) a registrar of the Principal Registry of the Family Division,  
or has served not less than five years as a clerk in the Principal Registry of the Family Division or a district probate registry.”; and
- (b) in Schedule 4 to that Act (which specifies the qualifications for appointment to certain other offices)—
  - (i) the following shall be substituted for the entry in column 2 of paragraph 5 (persons qualified for appointment as Registrar in Bankruptcy):—
    - “5
      - (i) A practising barrister or practising solicitor of not less than ten years' standing; or
      - (ii) a district registrar ; or
      - (iii) a county court registrar.”; and
    - (ii) at the end of paragraph 6(iii) (persons qualified for appointment as Master, Chancery Division) there shall be added the words " or
    - (iv) A county court registrar."