



Senior Courts Act 1981

1981 CHAPTER 54

PART IV

OFFICERS AND OFFICES

District registries and district registrars

99 District registries.

- (1) The Lord Chancellor may [^{F1}, after consulting the Lord Chief Justice,] by order direct that there shall be district registries of the High Court at such places and for such districts as are specified in the order.
- (2) Any order under this section shall be made by statutory instrument, which shall be laid before Parliament after being made.
- [^{F2}(3) The Lord Chief Justice may nominate a judicial office holder (as defined in section 109(4) of the Constitutional Reform Act 2005) to exercise his functions under this section.]

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 99(1) inserted (3.4.2006) by [Constitutional Reform Act 2005 \(c. 4\)](#), ss. 15, 148, [Sch. 4 para. 143\(2\)](#); S.I. 2006/1014, [art. 2\(a\)](#), Sch. 1 para. 11(q)
- F2** S. 99(3) inserted (3.4.2006) by [Constitutional Reform Act 2005 \(c. 4\)](#), ss. 15, 148, [Sch. 4 para. 143\(3\)](#); S.I. 2006/1014, [art. 2\(a\)](#), Sch. 1 para. 11(q)

[^{F3}100 District judges

- (1) The Lord Chief Justice, after consulting the Lord Chancellor—
 - (a) may assign a district judge to one or more district registries;
 - (b) may change an assignment so as to assign the district judge to a different district registry or registries (or to no district registry).

Status: Point in time view as at 19/07/2007.

Changes to legislation: Senior Courts Act 1981, Cross Heading: District registries and district registrars is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 13 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)

- (2) A reference in any enactment or other instrument to the district judge of a district registry is a reference to any district judge assigned to the registry concerned.
- (3) Every district judge is, by virtue of his office, capable of acting in any district registry whether or not assigned to it, but may do so only in accordance with arrangements made by or on behalf of the Lord Chief Justice.
- (4) Whilst a district judge is assigned to one or more district registries in accordance with subsection (1) he is a district judge of the High Court.
- [^{F4}(5) The Lord Chief Justice may nominate a judicial office holder (as defined in section 109(4) of the Constitutional Reform Act 2005) to exercise his functions under subsection (1).]

Textual Amendments

- F3** S. 100 substituted (3.4.2006) for ss. 100, 101 by [Constitutional Reform Act 2005 \(c. 4\)](#), ss. 14, 148, [Sch. 3 para. 2\(1\)\(2\)](#); [S.I. 2006/1014](#), [art. 2\(a\)](#), [Sch. 1 para. 9](#)
- F4** S. 100(5) inserted (19.7.2007) by [Tribunals, Courts and Enforcement Act 2007 \(c. 15\)](#), ss. 56, 148, [Sch. 11 para. 2](#)

102 Deputy district registrars.

- [^{F8}(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 High Court, he may appoint a person to be a deputy district judge.
 - (1A) A person is qualified for appointment under subsection (1) only if the person—
 - (a) is qualified for appointment as a district judge, or
 - (b) holds, or has held, the office of district judge.
 - (1B) The Lord Chancellor may not appoint a person under subsection (1) without the concurrence of the Lord Chief Justice if the person—
 - (a) holds the office of district judge, or
 - (b) ceased to hold the office of district judge within two years ending with the date when the appointment takes effect.
 - (1C) Section 85 of the Constitutional Reform Act 2005 (c. 4) (selection of certain office holders) does not apply to an appointment to which subsection (1B) applies.]
 - (3) [^{F9}No appointment to which subsection (1B) applies] shall be such as to extend beyond the day on which the person in question attains the age of seventy-five years.
 - [^{F10}(4A) The Lord Chief Justice, after consulting the Lord Chancellor—
 - (a) may assign a deputy district judge appointed under this section to one or more district registries;
 - (b) may change an assignment so as to assign the deputy district judge to a different district registry or registries (or to no district registry).
 - (4B) A deputy district judge appointed under this section and assigned to a district registry has, while acting under his assignment, the same jurisdiction as a district judge assigned to that registry.

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(4C) Every deputy district judge appointed under this section is, by virtue of his office, capable of acting as a district judge in any district registry to which he is not assigned, but may act in a district registry to which he is not assigned only in accordance with arrangements made by or on behalf of the Lord Chief Justice.]

[^{F11}(5) Subsection (6) of section 91 applies in relation to a deputy district judge appointed under this section as it applies in relation to a person appointed under that section.]

[^{F12}(5A) The Lord Chief Justice may nominate a judicial office holder (as defined in section 109(4) of the Constitutional Reform Act 2005) to exercise his functions under subsection (1B) or (4A).]

^{F13}(6)

Textual Amendments

- F8** S. 102(1)-(1C) substituted (19.7.2007) for s. 102(1)(2) by [Tribunals, Courts and Enforcement Act 2007 \(c. 15\)](#), ss. 56, 148, [Sch. 11 para. 3\(2\)](#)
- F9** Words in s. 102(3) substituted (19.7.2007) by [Tribunals, Courts and Enforcement Act 2007 \(c. 15\)](#), ss. 56, 148, [Sch. 11 para. 3\(3\)](#)
- F10** S. 102(4A)-(4C) substituted (19.7.2007) for s. 102(4) by [Tribunals, Courts and Enforcement Act 2007 \(c. 15\)](#), ss. 56, 148, [Sch. 11 para. 3\(4\)](#) (with [Sch. 11 para. 4](#))
- F11** S. 102(5) substituted (31.3.1995) by [1993 c. 8, s. 31](#), [Sch. 8 para. 15\(3\)](#); S.I. 1995/631, [art.2](#).
- F12** S. 102(5A) inserted (19.7.2007) by [Tribunals, Courts and Enforcement Act 2007 \(c. 15\)](#), ss. 56, 148, [Sch. 11 para. 3\(5\)](#)
- F13** S. 102(6) repealed by [Courts and Legal Services Act 1990 \(c. 41, SIF 76:1\)](#), s. 125(7), [Sch. 20](#)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** S. 102(1)(3) restricted (31.3.1995) by [1993 c. 8, s. 26\(7\)\(g\)](#) (with [Sch. 7. paras. 2\(2\), 3\(2\), 4](#)); S.I. 1995/631, [art.2](#).

^{F14}103

Textual Amendments

- F14** S. 103 repealed (31.3.1995) by [1993 c. 8, s. 31\(4\)](#), [Sch.9](#); S.I. 1995/631, [art.2](#).

Status:

Point in time view as at 19/07/2007.

Changes to legislation:

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