

ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTIVE NO. 144

This 27th day of November, 2002,

IT APPEARING THAT:

(1) The Court Resources Task Force appointed under Administrative Directive No. 136 dated January 9, 2002, has submitted its Final Report;

(2) Among other recommendations, the Task Force has concluded that the Delaware court system would be best served by designating a Justice of the Supreme Court as the Liaison Justice to the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC);

(3) The policy underlying this recommendation of the Court Resources Task Force is a sound one—namely that the management functions of an important institution such as the Delaware Judiciary would benefit from the efficient and businesslike structure of having a Liaison Justice report to and assist the Chief Justice in carrying out the increasingly complex and time-consuming administrative demands of the office of Chief Justice;

(4) This concept is also consistent with the Court's traditional and effective practice of assigning Liaison Justices to each court and to each Supreme Court board or committee;

(5) In general, the primary duty of the Liaison Justice would be to assist the Chief Justice in carrying out administrative responsibilities of that office under Del. Const. Art. IV Section 13.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS DIRECTED, with the unanimous approval of the members of the Supreme Court, pursuant to Delaware Constitution, art. IV, § 13(1), that:

(A) The Honorable Randy J. Holland is hereby assigned the role of Liaison Justice to the Administrative Office of the Courts;

(B) The duties of the Liaison Justice, with the advice and consent of the Chief Justice, shall include:

- (i) Assisting the Chief Justice in developing the major policies and directions for the administration of the courts;
- (ii) Ensuring that the administrative directives and policies of the Chief Justice and the Supreme Court are implemented as efficiently as possible;

- (iii) Formulating, in conjunction with the AOC, operational decisions (i.e., not major policy decisions which would constitutionally require action by the Chief Justice) relating to the administration and supervision of the Delaware court system;
 - (iv) Assisting the AOC in developing plans and policies to modernize and centralize the management of the Delaware court system;
 - (v) Assisting the trial courts in the modernization and centralization of the management of the court system;
 - (vi) Assisting the AOC in developing a first-class website or websites for all the Delaware courts;
 - (vii) Assisting the AOC in the preparation of the judicial budget and presentation of the recommendations to the Chief Justice;
 - (viii) Attending meetings of the Council of Court Administrators when the presence of the Liaison Justice may assist the Council in carrying out its responsibilities;
 - (ix) Regularly attending and participating in meetings of the Executive Committee of the Judicial Conference and such other meetings as the Chief Justice shall request; and
 - (x) Performing all other administrative and supervisory duties delegated to the Liaison Justice by the Chief Justice.
- (C) This Administrative Directive is effective immediately.

Chief Justice

cc: The Honorable Ruth Ann Minner
The Honorable Joseph T. Walsh
The Honorable Randy J. Holland
The Honorable Carolyn Berger
The Honorable Myron T. Steele
Members of Judicial Conference

The Honorable M. Jane Brady
The Honorable Lawrence M. Sullivan
Court Administrators
Clerk of the Supreme Court
Counsel to the Governor
Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee
Chair of the House Judiciary Committee