

SUPREME COURT OF LOUISIANA

NO. 12-O-1342

IN RE: OFFICE OF CHIEF JUSTICE, LOUISIANA SUPREME COURT

ORDER

Acting under the authority of Article V of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974, and the inherent power of this Court, and considering that contrary legal positions have been expressed on the issue of who will succeed to the office of Chief Justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court upon the retirement of present Chief Justice Catherine D. Kimball on January 31, 2013,

And further considering that the administration of justice requires a legal determination of who will assume the position of Chief Justice on February 1, 2013,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT

Any sitting Justice interested in a legal determination of this matter may file with the Clerk of Court, no later than July 31, 2012, on the following issue:

In consideration of Chief Justice Catherine D. Kimball's retirement on January 31, 2013, for purposes of determining who is Chief Justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court as of February 1, 2013, which Justice is the "judge oldest in point of service on the supreme court" under Article V, Section 6 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974?

Factual matters, if any, shall be submitted by affidavit filed with the Clerk of Court no later than July 31, 2012. Any responses by a sitting Justice shall be filed with the Clerk of Court by August 15, 2012. This matter shall be assigned for written opinion.*

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, this 13th day of June, 2012.


Catherine D. Kimball, Chief Justice

*Chief Judge Burrell J. Carter, Court of Appeal, First Circuit, Chief Judge Henry N. Brown, Jr., Court of Appeal, Second Circuit, and Chief Judge Ulysses Gene Thibodeaux, Court of Appeal, Third Circuit, participating as justices *ad hoc*. Johnson, Knoll and Victory, JJ, recused.