

KING COUNTY DISTRICT COURT

) NO. GAO 24-07
)
) GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
)
) Replaces GAO 15-07, and all previous
) GAOs and policies on this subject
)
) Procedure when Court is
) Notified of a Party's Death

Death certificates contain highly sensitive information. The Court has no obligation to seek death records. Under no circumstances should a clerk seek a death certificate for any case type.

For INFRACTION cases, if a clerk learns that a defendant is deceased, the clerk shall set a hearing and send notice to all parties.

For CRIMINAL cases, if a clerk learns that a defendant is deceased, the clerk shall set a hearing and send notice to all parties.

For CIVIL cases, if a clerk receives information that a party is deceased, the clerk shall create a judicial review and proceed no further unless directed to do so by the Court.

DATED this 6th day of August, 2024



Rebecca C. Robertson, Chief Presiding Judge
King County District Court

Discussed at August 6, 2024 Executive Committee Meeting