

KING COUNTY DISTRICT COURT

) NO. GAO 24-07  
)  
) GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER  
)  
) Replaces GAO 15-07, and all previous  
) GAOs and polices 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 6<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2024



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

Discussed at August 6, 2024 Executive Committee Meeting