

3. "Duly authorized deputy" shall mean a person who is presently authorized to perform all of the functions, exercise all the powers and discharge all the duties of an office in the event the office is vacant or at such times as it lacks administration due to the death, absence or disability of the incumbent officer.

4. "Emergency interim successor" shall mean a person designated pursuant to this Act for temporary succession to the powers and duties, but not the office, of a County official in the event such official or any duly authorized deputy is unavailable to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of the office.

(b) Designation, status, qualifications and term of emergency interim successors.

1. County Council. In the event that one or more members of the County Council are declared "unavailable" pursuant to this Section during a proclaimed state of public emergency, a majority of the remaining Council members may designate an "emergency interim successor" to the powers and duties of such unavailable Councilmember or members. In the event that the remaining Councilmembers fail to act or are unable to act within a reasonable time during the state of public emergency and the appointment of "emergency interim successors" is required to enable the Council to continue functioning, the County Executive may designate "emergency interim successors" to the powers and duties of any unavailable Councilmembers.

2. County Executive. In the event that the County Executive shall become unavailable during a proclaimed state of public emergency the following emergency interim successors shall, in the order in which they are listed, succeed to the powers and duties of the County Executive:

1. Chief Administrative Officer
2. Director of the Department of Public Works
3. Director of the Department of Finance

3. Appointive officials. The County Executive, after receiving the advice of the Chief Administrative Officer, shall, within thirty (30) days after taking office or within thirty(30) days after the appointment or reappointment of the Chief Administrative Officer and each head of each principal department, office or agency of the executive branch designate "emergency interim successors" for such Chief Administrative Officer and such heads of each principal department, office or agency of the executive branch and specify their rank in order of succession after any duly authorized deputy so that there will be not less than three duly authorized deputies or "emergency interim successors": or combination thereof for each official.