

# Law No. 10 of 2003 Promulgating the Law on Judicial Authority 10 / 2003

Number of Articles: 83



Stars icon indicate that some articles are amended

## **Table of Content**

[Issuance Articles \(1-3\)](#)

[Chapter One Definitions and General Provisions \(1-3\)](#)

[Chapter Two Order and Organization of the Courts \(4-13\)](#)

[Chapter Three Sessions and Judgments \(14-16\)](#)

[Chapter Four The Courts' General Assemblies and Ad Hoc Committees \(17-21\)](#)

[Chapter Five The Supreme Council of the Judiciary \(22-26\)](#)

[Chapter Six Appointments, Promotion and Seniority \(27-33\)](#)

[Chapter Seven Assignment and Secondment of Judges \(34-36\)](#)

[Chapter Eight Leave \(37-39\)](#)

[Chapter Nine Duties of the Judges \(40-46\)](#)

[Chapter Ten Judicial Inspection \(47-49\)](#)

[Chapter Eleven Accountability of Judges \(50-62\)](#)

[Chapter Twelve The End of the Mandate of Judges \(63-65\)](#)

[Chapter Thirteen Judicial Assistants \(66-70\)](#)

[Chapter Fourteen Judges' Aides \(71-75\)](#)

[Chapter Fifteen Final Provisions \(76-80\)](#)

We, Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar,  
Having perused the Amended Provisional Constitution, in particular Articles 19, 23, 34, 51, 65 and 66 thereof;  
Law No. 13 of 1971 on Judicial Courts, as amended;  
Qatar Penal Code promulgated by Law No. 14 of 1971, as amended;  
The Criminal Procedure Law No. 15 of 1971, as amended;  
The Civil and Commercial Articles Law No. 16 of 1971, as amended by Law No. 10 of 1982;  
The Civil and Commercial Procedures Law promulgated by Law No. 13 of 1990, as amended by Law No. 7 of 1995;  
Decree-Law No. 14 of 1991 regulating the Ministry of Justice and its Functions, as amended;  
Law No. 9 of 1993 regulating the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs and its Functions;  
The Judicial Authority Law promulgated by Law No. 6 of 1999;  
The Civil Service Law promulgated by Law No. 1 of 2001;  
Law No. 8 of 2001 establishing a Center for Legal and Judicial Studies;  
Law No. 10 of 2002 on the Public Prosecution;  
The proposal of the Minister of Justice and Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs;  
The draft law submitted by the Council of Ministers;  
Having consulted the *Shura* Council;  
Hereby promulgat

## **Issuance Articles**

Article 1 - Introduction

The provisions of the Law on Judicial Authority, annexed hereto, shall apply.

---

## Article 2 - Introduction

Law No. 13 of 1971 and Law No. 6 of 1999, as referred to, are hereby repealed insofar as their provisions and any other provisions contradict the provisions of the present Law.

---

## Article 3 - Introduction

All competent authorities, each within its jurisdiction, shall implement the present Law, which shall take effect one year from the date of its publication in the *Official Gazette*

---

## **Chapter One Definitions and General Provisions**

### Article 1

In applying the provisions of this Law, each of the following words and expressions shall have the meanings assigned thereto, unless the context requires otherwise:

1. "Council" means the Supreme Judicial Council (SJC).
2. "Judges" means the President, Vice-President, and Judges of the Court of Cassation; the Presidents, Vice-Presidents, and Judges of the Court of Appeals; and the Presidents and Judges of the Court of First Instance.
3. "Year" means the calendar year.

---

### Article 2

Judges are independent and shall not be subject to removal from office except in accordance with the provisions of this Law. The independence of the judiciary shall be guaranteed and no inappropriate or unwarranted interference with the judicial process shall be permitted.

---

### Article 3

The courts budget shall be part of the State General Budget.

## Chapter Two Order and Organization of the Courts

### Article 4

The Courts shall comprise:

1. the Court of Cassation
2. the Court of Appeal
3. the Court of First Instance

Each shall have jurisdiction to deal with and make pronouncements on legal matters brought before it and to administer justice within its defined area of responsibility in accordance with the law.

### Article 5

The courts shall be based principally in Doha. By a resolution of the Council:

1. Departments of Courts of First Instance may be created in other cities; and
2. Hearings may take place at locations away from the home courts.

### Article 6

1. The Court of Cassation shall be composed of a President and a sufficient number of Vice-Presidents and Judges, and it shall be composed of Circuits to hear appeals on the interpretation of the provisions and measures enacted by law.
1. Each Circuit shall comprise a President or Vice-President or Senior Judge of the Court. Circuits may be established, and terms of reference defined, by resolution of the Council. The President of the Court shall, based on a proposal of the General Assembly, appoint the members to the Circuits by resolution. Judgments shall be issued by five members. The senior Vice-President of the Court shall replace the President during his absence.

### Article 7

Where a Circuit of the Court of Cassation considers reversal of a legal principle established by a prior ruling of its own or of another Circuit, or is confronted by a conflict of jurisdiction, it shall refer the case to the Full Court for adjudication.

### Article 8

The Court of Cassation shall have a technical or professional office, composed of a president and a sufficient number of judges. The judges shall be delegated by resolution of the council based on the nomination of the President of the Court of Cassation. A sufficient number of employees shall be attached to the office

---

## Article 9

The technical office shall have competence over the following:

1. Drawing up the legal principles which the Court has established in its judgments, presenting them to the Head of the Circuit that issued them, and tabulating and publishing them.
2. Issuing collections of judgments.
3. Preparing technical research.
4. Supervising the operation of the library.
5. Supervising the listings of the Court, and submission of similar appeals, or joining together of the same, or of appeals where the judgment requires a decision on the same legal principle according to the President of the Court
6. Any other matter specified by the President of the Court.

---

## Article 10 (Amended By Decree 21/2010)★

1. The Court of Appeal shall be composed of a President and a sufficient number of presidents, vice-presidents and judges, and shall have circuits to hear appeals of orders, rules and sentencing in *Hudud* (ordained punishments) and *Qisas* (retribution) cases, criminal provisions, civil and commercial matters, family issues, inheritance, and administrative or other disputes. The establishment of the circuits' jurisdictions, and definitions of terms of reference thereof, shall be made by resolution of the Council.
2. The most senior of the presidents shall preside over the Court. The president of each circuit shall be the most senior of its members. The Council shall have the power to appoint any judges of the Court of Cassation it deems fit for the sole leadership of the circuits of the Court. The appointment shall be for a period of one judicial year, which may be renewed for a similar period or periods.
3. The allocation of the members between the different Circuits shall be made by resolution of the President of the Court based on the proposal by the General Assembly. Judgments shall be issued by three members. The most senior of the presidents shall take the place of the President of the Court in his absence.

---

## Article 11 (Amended By Decree 21/2010)★

1. The Court of First Instance (CoFI) shall comprise the President and a sufficient number of presidents and judges. The CoFI shall include circuits with jurisdiction over *Hudud* and retribution cases; criminal, civil and commercial matters; family issues; inheritance; administrative disputes; and other matters.
2. The establishment of Circuits, and the definition of their terms of reference, shall be made by resolution of the Council. The most senior of the presidents shall preside over the Court. The most senior members of each Circuit shall preside thereover. The Council shall have the power to appoint any of the appellate judges it deems fit to preside over one of the chambers of the court. Such appointment shall be for a period of one judicial year, which may be renewed for a similar period or periods.
3. The allocation of the members between the different Circuits shall be made by resolution of the President of the Court based on the proposal by the General Assembly. Judgments shall be issued by three members. The most senior of the presidents shall take the place of the President of the Court in his absence.

---

## Article 12

The Council shall, based on the proposal of the President of the Court of First Instance, establish one or more circuits. The judgments of such circuits shall be issued by an individual judge in cases which the law shall specify.

## Article 13

The Courts shall have no power to consider, either directly or indirectly, acts of sovereignty or issues of nationality.

## **Chapter Three Sessions and Judgments**

## Article 14

Judgments shall be issued and enforced in the name of the Emir.

## Article 15

1. Court hearings shall be public unless the law prescribes, or the Court orders *ex mero motu*, or a litigant requests, that they be held *in camera* to maintain public decorum or respect for morals or to protect the sanctity of the family.
2. In all cases, judgment must be given in a public hearing. The judge presiding over the hearing shall govern the court's management and control its procedure.

## Article 16

Arabic shall be the language of the Courts. It shall be permitted for the Court, *mutatis mutandis*, to hear the statements of parties or witnesses who are unable to speak Arabic by way of an interpreter, who shall swear under oath to interpret honestly and truthfully. If the interpreter is an employee of the Courts, it shall be sufficient for him to swear the oath once at the start of his appointment.

## **Chapter Four The Courts' General Assemblies and Ad Hoc Committees**

## Article 17

Each Court shall have a General Assembly. Each Assembly shall convene at the invitation of the President of the Court, or anyone acting on his behalf, whether *ex mero motu* or in accordance with a request by at least one third of the members, to consider the following issues:

1. The formation of circuits.
2. The allocation of cases to the different circuits.
3. Specifying the number of hearings and the dates thereof.
4. Organizing the work during the judicial vacation, and defining the issues to be considered.
5. Other issues relating to the internal affairs of the Court.
6. Any other issue which the law ascribes to it or which the Council assigns to it.

The General Assembly shall be permitted to delegate certain of its competences to the President of the Court.

---

## Article 18

1. The General Assembly of the Court shall consist of all of the members thereof, and the President of the Court shall preside over the Assembly.
2. The Assembly shall not be deemed valid unless more than half of the members are present. If this quorum is not attained, the Assembly may validly convene after the lapse of one hour from the time appointed if at least one third of the members are present.
3. Where this quorum is not attained, the General Assembly may validly reconvene within one week regardless of the number of members present.

---

## Article 19

1. Resolutions of the General Assembly shall be issued by majority vote of the members present. In the event of a tie the President shall cast the deciding vote.
2. The minutes of the General Assembly shall be certified in the record and shall be signed by the President and the Secretary.

---

## Article 20

1. The General Assembly shall form in each Court a three-person committee called the "Interim Affairs Committee" comprising the President of the Court or his appointed delegate as its president and the two most senior members of the Assembly.
2. The committee shall have authority over the terms of reference of the General Assembly in urgent matters where it cannot be convened.

---

## Article 21

1. The resolutions of the General Assembly and of the Interim Affairs Committee shall be submitted to the Council.
  2. The Council may remit to the General Assembly or to the Committee for reconsideration any resolutions which it deems inappropriate.
  3. Where either the Assembly or the Committee insists on its original decision, the Council may proceed as it deems necessary and its resolution shall be final.
-

## Chapter Five The Supreme Council of the Judiciary

### Article 22

A Council called 'the Supreme Council of the Judiciary' shall be established as follows:

1. The President of the Court of Cassation shall be its President.
2. The most senior Vice-president of the Court of Cassation shall be Vice-president.
3. The most senior judge in the Court of Cassation shall be a member.
4. The President of the Court of Appeal shall be a member.
5. The senior Vice-president in the Court of Appeal shall be a member.
6. The senior judge in the Court of Appeal shall be a member.
7. The President of the Court of First Instance shall be a member.

The Vice-president shall take the place of the President in case of his absence or a vacancy in that office.

### Article 23

The Council shall strive to ensure the independence of the judiciary and, in addition to the other powers specified in this Law, shall be responsible for the following:

1. Expressing its opinion on issues relating to the judiciary, and studying and proposing legislation for the development of the judicial system.
2. Expressing its opinion on the appointment, promotion, transfer and assignment, secondment and retirement of judges in accordance with the provisions of this Law.
3. Considering grievances relating to judicial affairs. The Council's resolutions on these matters shall be final.
4. Other functions prescribed by any other law, and issues which the President of the Council shall deem fit for consideration.

### Article 24

1. The Council shall convene an ordinary meeting at least once every month and an extraordinary meeting whenever the situation requires.
2. The Council shall meet at the invitation of its President, or at the request of at least three of its members, and the invitation must be provided to members accompanied by the agenda.
3. A meeting of the Council shall not be valid unless attended by a majority of its members, including the President. All Council deliberations shall be secret, and its resolutions shall be issued by majority vote of those present. In the case of a tie the President shall cast the deciding vote.

### Article 25

The Council shall be permitted to form one or more committees from among its members and to delegate any of its functions to that committee, except those relating to appointment, promotion, transfer and retirement.

## Article 26

The Council shall establish rules for governing its meetings and exercising its powers.

## **Chapter Six Appointments, Promotion and Seniority**

## Article 27

Any person considered for judicial office shall:

1. be either a Qatari citizen or a citizen of another Arab State;
2. be fully competent;
3. hold a degree from a recognised university either in law, or in *Shari'ah* and law, or *Shari'ah* or its equivalent;
4. not have been convicted of an offence or misdemeanour involving moral turpitude or dishonesty, even if he has been rehabilitated;
5. not have been dismissed from service by a disciplinary determination;
6. be of good standing and reputation; and
7. not be younger than twenty-five years if appointed to the Court of First Instance, and not younger than thirty-eight years if appointed to the Court of Appeal.

## Article 28

Taking into account the provisions of the preceding Article, the following conditions shall apply to the appointment of judicial officers:

1. A person appointed as Judge of First Instance must have spent at least three years in the role of judicial assistant and successfully passed the training schedule in accordance with the provisions of Law No. 8 of 2001.
2. A person appointed as President of the Court of First Instance must have spent at least five years as Judge of First Instance.
3. A person appointed as Judge of the Court of Appeal must have spent at least six years as President of the Court of First Instance.
4. A person appointed as Vice-president of the Court of Appeal must have spent at least six years as Judge of the Court of Appeal.
5. A person appointed as President of the Court of Appeal must have spent at least five years as Vice-president of the Court of Appeal.
6. A person appointed as Judge of the Court of Cassation must have spent at least five years as President of the Court of Appeal.
7. A person appointed as Vice-president of the Court of Cassation must have spent at least five years as Judge of the Court of Appeal.

It shall be permitted, if deemed necessary, to reduce by as much as half the time required for appointment to the offices of Judge and Vice-president of the Court of Cassation during the first five years after the coming into force of this law.

## Article 29

1. The promotion of judges shall be on the basis of seniority. In the case of promotion to a higher office, an additional assessment of competence of at least "above average" shall be made of the candidate.
2. Competence shall be defined according to the judicial inspection reports on judicial activities, in accordance with the provisions of this Law and the resolutions implementing it.
3. Promotions shall not be permitted until after the expiry of the periods prescribed in the preceding Article.



---

Article 30

The appointment of the President of the Court of Cassation shall be made by order of the Emir. The appointed President shall have the rank of minister. The appointment of the rest of the judiciary shall be made by decree, upon the proposal by the Council.

---

Article 31

Seniority of judges shall be defined according to the date of the decree appointing them, unless this decree specifies another date. Where more than one judge is appointed in one decree, the seniority of one against the other shall be according to the order in which they are named in the decree.

---

Article 32

Appointment to judicial office of the following categories of persons from outside the judiciary shall be permitted:

1. Former judges of the Courts.
2. Members of the public prosecutor's office.
3. People engaged in legal work comparable to judicial work in the Ministries and other government services and theological and public institutions. The Council shall issue a resolution defining comparable work.
4. Lawyers.
5. Members of organisations teaching law, and *Shari'ah* and law, in the recognised universities.

Such appointment, and the specification of their degrees and seniority, shall be in accordance with the requirements issued by resolution of the Council.

---

Article 33

The salaries and allowances of judges shall be determined by resolution of the Emir, but no resolution may permit a salary of a personal nature or exceptional treatment of any kind.

---

**Chapter Seven Assignment and Secondment of Judges**

Article 34

---

1. No appointment of a judge outside the Courts shall be permitted except for undertaking judicial or legal work.
2. The appointment shall be by resolution of the Council, renewable for a period of one year if the appointment is temporary and for a maximum of four years if the appointment is permanent.

---

## Article 35

1. No judge shall be permitted, without the consent of the Council, to act as an arbitrator, whether paid or unpaid, in a dispute submitted or not submitted to Court.
2. Appointment of a judge to act as arbitrator in a dispute involving any governmental or public authority or institution shall be permitted with the prior consent of the Council.

---

## Article 36

1. Secondment of a judge to a foreign government or international organization shall be permitted by decree with the consent of the Council.
2. The period of the secondment shall not exceed four consecutive years unless the Emir deems an extension of this period to be in the public interest.

---

## **Chapter Eight Leave**

## Article 37

Judicial vacations shall begin on the first day of the month of July and end on the last of day of the month of September in each year.

---

## Article 38

1. The General Assembly shall organise leave schedules for judges and arrange coverage for work required to be done during judicial vacations.
2. The leave period shall not exceed sixty days for judges and forty-nine days for judicial assistants.

---

## Article 39

1. A judge may be granted sick leave for a period not exceeding one year at full salary, a second year at half salary, and a third year at quarter salary. A

judge may use up his allowance of annual leave in addition to his entitlement to sick pay.

2. A judge cannot resume work after the period of leave established in this article. Where a competent medical committee rules that he is unable for health reasons to carry out his duties, he shall be transferred into retirement by decree based on the request of the Council.

---

## **Chapter Nine Duties of the Judges**

### **Article 40**

Before taking office, a judge shall swear the following solemn oath:

"I swear by Almighty God that I shall judge between people according to justice, and respect the provisions of the Islamic *Shari'ah* and the laws of the homeland."

The swearing of the oath by the President of the Court of Cassation shall be before the Emir, and by the rest of the judiciary before the Council.

---

### **Article 41**

1. Judges shall maintain standards of decency and honour, both within their work and outside of it, and shall be committed to protecting their reputations and their careers and to preventing anything which might affect their honesty or call into question their integrity.
2. Judges may not engage in business or in any action, whether paid or unpaid, that is inconsistent with the independence and honour of the judiciary.
3. The Council may decide to prevent judges from engaging in any act which conflicts with the nature and duties of the office and the good performance thereof.

---

### **Article 42**

Judges shall be prohibited from expressing their political views or engaging in political activities. Judges may not stand for election to legislative or municipal councils while they are in office.

---

### **Article 43**

Except where contained in a written or oral judgment, judges may not express an opinion on the dispute before them or divulge any part of their deliberations.

---

### **Article 44**

---

1. No judge related to another by blood or marriage up to the fourth degree may serve in the same Chamber.
2. No judge related to any party to a dispute, or their representative, by blood or marriage up to the fourth degree may hear the dispute.

---

## Article 45

Judges may not hear any case in which they have a direct or indirect personal interest or a relationship with either party which is in conflict with their judicial duties.

---

## Article 46

Judges may not accept, nor may they authorise a family member to accept, a gift from litigants or their agents or their families.

---

## **Chapter Ten Judicial Inspection**

## Article 47

1. A department for judicial oversight, attached to the Council, shall be established with one Vice-president of the Court of Cassation as its head and a sufficient number of judges of the Court of Cassation as well as presidents, vice-presidents and judges of the Court of Appeal as its members.
2. It shall have authority to inspect the work of the vice-presidents and judges of the Court of Appeal, and the Presidents and judges of the Court of First Instance, and to check and investigate complaints brought against judges relating to the execution of their duties or to their behaviour.
3. The Council shall issue a resolution appointing the President and members of the department for a period of one year, which shall be renewable; and the Council shall also issue by resolution the rules and procedures for judicial investigations.

---

## Article 48

1. The inspections referred to in the preceding Article shall be conducted at least once every two years, and an assessment of competence shall be made according to a grade of (a) adequate; or (b) above average; or (c) average; or (d) less than average.
2. The department shall inform the judge of the contents of his service file and shall provide him with a copy of the inspection report.
3. A judge may appeal against the findings of the report to the Council within fifteen days of receipt thereof. The Council shall decide the appeal after reading the papers and hearing statements from the appellant, and its resolution regarding the judge's competence shall be final.

---

## Article 49

---

1. Where a judge is rated in consecutive assessments at the grade of "below average", the Council shall resolve, on the proposal of the Judicial Inspection Department, to transfer him either into retirement or to another non-judicial office and the judge's authority shall cease from the date specified in the Council's decree.
2. In the case of transfer to non-judicial office, the transferred judge shall retain his salary in a personal capacity, even if this exceeds the limit for the salary level of the office to which he was transferred.

---

## **Chapter Eleven Accountability of Judges**

### **Article 50**

Judges may be held accountable for disciplinary reasons in the following circumstances:

1. If they have breached the duties of their office or its requirements.
2. If they have fallen below the standard specified for the honour and prestige of the judiciary.
3. If they have brought on themselves suspicion and mistrust.

---

### **Article 51**

1. The Disciplinary Council, comprised of the President of the Council as its president and the two most senior members as its other members, shall be responsible for the disciplining of judges.
2. Where the office of one of the members is vacant, or he is absent, or his presence is prevented, the next person of seniority shall replace him.
3. No person who supervised or participated in the investigation of a judge's conduct shall be permitted to adjudicate in the disciplinary proceedings.

---

### **Article 52**

1. No disciplinary action may be instituted without the permission of the President of the Council.
2. Disciplinary action shall be carried out by a member of the Court of Cassation or investigatory department, whom the President of the Council shall appoint.
3. A disciplined judge may appeal against the disciplinary action. The appeal shall be presented by the President of the Judicial Inspection Department, or someone appointed by him, and heard by the Disciplinary Council.

---

### **Article 53**

1. The disciplinary procedure shall commence with a written charge and supporting evidence served on the judge, who shall be summoned on fifteen days' notice to appear before the Disciplinary Council for trial.
2. Once the trial proceedings are under way, the Council may decide after hearing the judge's statement to suspend all of the work of his office or to put him on compulsory leave until the end of the trial, and it may at any time reconsider its order of suspension or leave.
3. The order of suspension or leave shall not entail the deprivation of salary, allowances or other financial consequences, either in whole or in part.

---

## Article 54

The disciplinary process shall terminate on the voluntary resignation of the judge, but the resignation shall not exonerate the judge from any criminal or civil liability that may arise due to the disciplinary action.

---

## Article 55

The Disciplinary Council may take such measures as it deems necessary in its investigations and delegates one of its members to undertake the same.

1. The Council and the appointed member shall have the authority of the ordinary courts in relation to the hearing of testimony from any witnesses.

---

## Article 56

1. Disciplinary hearings shall be conducted in private. Judgment shall be delivered after the prosecution and defence have been heard. The judge may act in his own defence or be represented by a member of the judiciary.
2. Where either the judge or his representative is absent, judgment may be delivered in their absence after the truthfulness of the allegations has been fully and properly determined.
3. The judgment shall give the reasons on which it is based, and it shall be final and not subject to appeal. The Council shall be furnished with a copy of the judgment immediately after it is issued.

---

## Article 57

Disciplinary sanctions which can be imposed on judges are:

1. Warning.
2. Censure.
3. Dismissal.

---

## Article 58

The Council shall send to the judge a registered letter enclosing the disciplinary judgment against him. The sanction imposed under Article 57 shall be recorded in the service file of the judge.

Article 59

1. The authority of a judge sanctioned with a dismissal shall cease from the date of judgment, unless the judgment specifies a date or he has been put on compulsory leave.
2. An order shall be issued implementing the sanction of dismissal, and both the judgment and the order shall be recorded in the service file of the judge.

Article 60

A judgment ordering the dismissal of a judge shall have no effect on his salary or right to a pension or reward.

Article 61

1. Save where a judge is caught *in flagrante delicto* in the commission of an offence, he may not be arrested, nor may any investigatory measures be taken against him, without the prior permission of the Council.
2. In all cases, the Council shall be authorized to consider the precautionary incarceration of the judge or renewal thereof.

Article 62

1. The Council may, either *ex mero motu* or on a request by the President of the Court of Cassation or on a resolution of the General Assembly of the Court, order the suspension of the judge from duty during the investigation into the alleged offence.
2. Such suspension from duty shall not suspend the judge's salary or allowances, or stop payment of the same, entirely or in part, for the duration of the period of his suspension.

**Chapter Twelve The End of the Mandate of Judges**

Article 63

The following shall terminate the authority of judges:

1. Death.
2. Resignation.
3. Reaching retirement age.
4. Dismissal by virtue of disciplinary action.
5. Dismissal by resolution of the Emir in the public interest.
6. Being placed into retirement, or transferred to other non-judicial duties.

---

## Article 64

The resignation of a judge shall be valid from the date of its submission, if made unconditionally and without restrictions. Resignation shall not result in the deprivation of the judge's pension or bonus.

---

## Article 65 (Amended By Decree 21/2010)★

1. The retirement age for judges shall be seventy years.
2. After reaching the age of sixty, a judge may request transfer into retirement. The request shall be deemed acceptable on the date of submission.
3. The service of judges may be extended beyond retirement age, by decree and on the proposal of the Supreme Judicial Council, for a period or periods not exceeding five years on aggregate, with each period not being less than one judicial year.
4. In every case, if the judge reaches retirement age during the period from the first day of October to the last day of June in the following year, his authority shall continue until the end of the period.

---

## **Chapter Thirteen Judicial Assistants**

### Article 66

The Court of First Instance shall employ a sufficient number of judicial assistants, and judges shall supervise their training and assignment of work as set out in this Law.

---

### Article 67

Persons appointed as judicial assistants shall be Qatari nationals, shall fulfil the requirements specified in Article 27 of this Law, and shall not be younger than 21 years of age.

---



## Article 68

1. A judicial assistant shall be appointed by resolution of the President of the Council of Ministers, based on the proposal of the Council.
2. The first year of employment as a judicial assistant shall be probationary, renewable for a similar period.
3. Where the judicial assistant qualifies for appointment as a judge, the appointment shall take precedence over the appointment of all others. The judicial assistant shall, before assuming office as a judge, swear the oath prescribed by Article 40 of this Law before the Head of the Council.

## Article 69

Judicial assistants shall have authority for the following:

1. Case processing and coordination of judicial activities.
2. Preparing applications for orders on execution of property before they are presented to the competent judge in the case. The judicial assistant may, in performing this role, complete documents and provide information relating to property under execution, verify the defendant's title or ownership therein, and determine the possibility of attachment of the property.
3. Attending court hearings, but without participating as a member of the court or in the issuing of judgments.
4. Contributing to the work of the technical office of the Court of Cassation.
5. Any other functions assigned to them by the Council or the President of the Court of Cassation in accordance with this Law.

The allocation of work between judicial assistants shall be effected by resolution of the President of the Court of Cassation.

## Article 70

1. Subject to the provisions set out in this Part, the provisions of Chapters 8, 9 and 11 of this Law shall apply to judicial assistants.
2. Resolutions terminating the services of judicial assistants or transferring them to other offices in accordance with the provisions of this Law shall be issued by the President of the Council of Ministers, based on a proposal of the Supreme Council of the Judiciary.

## **Chapter Fourteen Judges' Aides**

### Article 71

Judges' aides are experts, translators and clerks.

### Article 72

Taking into account the provisions of the Law on Criminal Procedure and the Law on Civil and Commercial Procedure, this law shall regulate the use of experts and translators before the courts, and shall define their rights and duties and their disciplinary code.

Article 73

A sufficient number of technical and administrative officials and clerks shall be appointed to each court, and they shall, before taking up their employment, swear an oath before the competent President of the Court that they will perform their jobs truthfully and faithfully.

Article 74

1. The Presidents of the Courts, after consultation with the Presidents of the Circuits, shall have the power to allocate administrative and clerical work among the employees of each court, as well as to transfer and delegate them between or outside the Circuits of the Court.
2. Transfer or delegation between or outside the courts shall be by resolution of the Council, based on the proposal by the President of the relevant Court.

Article 75

The provisions of the regulations governing personnel issued by resolution of the Council of Ministers, based on the recommendation of the Council, shall apply to judges' aides and other court personnel.

**Chapter Fifteen Final Provisions**

Article 76

Save as otherwise stipulated in this law, the provisions of the Civil and Commercial Procedure Law and the Law on Criminal Procedure shall apply to criminal and civil matters brought before the courts.

Article 77

All court proceedings before Shari'ah or courts at the date of the entry into force of this law shall be transferred to the competent Circuit, as set out in this Law and the resolutions implementing it.

## Article 78

The Emir shall issue a resolution settling the positions of judges of the existing Shari'ah and lawful courts serving on the date of the coming into force of this law, by transferring them to offices commensurate with their current offices and according to their respective seniority.

---

## Article 79

Save as otherwise stipulated in this law, the provisions of the aforesaid Civil Service Law shall apply to judges.

---

## Article 80

The Council shall issue resolutions deemed necessary for the implementation of the provisions of this Law.

---

**Please do not consider the material presented above Official  
Al Meezan - Qatary Legal Portal**