



National Lieutenant Governors Association

PRESS ADVISORY

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For Immediate Use

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HOW OFTEN DO SECONDS-IN-COMMAND SUCCEED TO GOVERNOR?

Up-to-date research on gubernatorial succession is at www.nlga.us

An updated research piece is available exclusively from the National Lieutenant Governors Association (NLGA) which details how often seconds-in-command succeed to governor.

“Gubernatorial Succession Data: 1980 – current” shows the sixth (6th) second-in-command this decade succeeded to governor. Iowa Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds succeeded to governor upon Governor Terry Branstad’s resignation today to become U.S. Ambassador to China. Two current governors are former NLGA Chairs: Governor Reynolds and Delaware Governor John Carney.

“When Lt. Governor Reynolds succeeded, she became the eleventh (11th) sitting governor who first served as lieutenant governor or first in line of gubernatorial succession,”

said NLGA Director Julia Hurst. “These include the governors of Alabama, Delaware, Indiana, Iowa, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, and Vermont.”

“The previous five gubernatorial successions between January 1, 2010, and this date were in North Dakota, West Virginia, Oregon, South Carolina, and Alabama,” said NLGA Associate Director Mike Conway.

Between January 1, 2000, and December 31, 2009, twenty-two (22) gubernatorial successions occurred. That tally includes the “Five-Governors-in-a-Day” experience in New Jersey as one succession.

Between January 1, 1990, and December 31, 1999, nine (9) gubernatorial successions occurred.

The research is posted in its entirety at www.nlga.us.

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*NLGA is the only association serving all state and territorial officials
who are first in line of gubernatorial succession.*