

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA

GREER M. LYNCH
CLERK OF COURT

MADELINE H. HAIKALA
CHIEF JUDGE

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Re: CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE SUCCESSION

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 136 and effective January 1, 2026, Madeline H. Haikala succeeds R. David Proctor as Chief United States District Judge for the Northern District of Alabama. Judge Proctor, who was nominated by President George W. Bush and confirmed by the U.S. Senate in September 2003, has served as Chief Judge since January 1, 2024. Judge Haikala, nominated by President Barack Obama, was confirmed by the U.S. Senate in October 2013.

The Northern District of Alabama comprises five geographical divisions, including thirty-one counties with approximately three million residents. The District is currently served by seven active district judges, three senior district judges, five magistrate judges, and 100 chambers and court employees. The Court conducts regular proceedings in Anniston, Birmingham, Florence, Huntsville, and Tuscaloosa.

Date Posted: December 31, 2025