Canady picked to lead state Supreme Court

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TALLAHASSEE - Justice Charles Canady will be the Florida Supreme Court's next chief justice.

Canady's six colleagues Wednesday unanimously elected him to succeed Chief Justice Peggy Quince on July 1. He will serve a two-year term.

The justices stuck to their tradition of electing the justice with the most seniority who hasn't yet held the job. Quince will remain on the court with two other former chief justices.

Gov. Charlie Crist appointed Canady, a former Republican congressman and state legislator, in August 2008. He's the first of four Crist appointees.

Canady and another Crist appointee, Justice Ricky Polston, are the court's most conservative members, often dissenting together.