Q40 – If the president can no longer serve, who becomes president?

DOUGLAS GINSBURG, Federal Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals, D.C. Circuit:
If the president can no longer serve, then the vice president becomes president, as provided in Article II of the Constitution.

This has happened nine times in our history. In 1841 William Henry Harrison served the shortest term of any president – just 32 days– after delivering the longest inaugural address of any president. Harrison spoke outdoors on a frigid day for one hour and 45 minutes. He died of pneumonia and was succeeded by John Tyler, the first unelected president.
Three other presidents died of illness while in office. And four have been assassinated.
Gerald Ford became president during the Watergate scandal when Richard Nixon resigned – the only president to do so.