

Book I.
Title LVII.

Concerning the office of the juridicus of Alexandria.
(De officio juridici Alexandriae)

1.57.1. Emperors Leo and Anthemius to Alexander, Duke and Augustral Prefect.

We direct that all persons who wish to register (reserare) documents of a gift, solemnly written, are permitted to do so only before the juridicus of the noble city, and the orderly record of the acts done, made before the same man, will add to them the same force, as if made before the honorable moderator of the province, or the (municipal) magistrate or defender of the people.

Given at Constantinople September 1 (469).

Note.

The juridicus, as the name indicates, had judicial powers. Marcus Aurelius appointed juridici in Italy with powers in matters of trusts and guardianship and perhaps others, not definitely known. These juridici disappeared about the middle of the third century. Only the juridicus in Alexandria seems to have survived by that name. The extent of his jurisdiction is not known. Guardians could be appointed by him and adoptions could be made before him. The Augustral Prefect at Alexandria was the regular judge of original jurisdiction, but he frequently assigned cases to the juridicus. But how extensive the original jurisdiction of the juridicus was uncertain. If the post of Augustral Prefect was vacant, the juridicus at times represented that office. See generally 10 Pauly-Wissowa 1151-1152; 2 Bethmann-Hollweg 66; Milne, 6 History of Egypt 4; Jors, Untersuchungen 64 et seq.; Stein, Untersuchungen 128.