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**ATTORNEY GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

33 CAPITOL STREET
CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03301-6397

JOHN M. FORMELLA
ATTORNEY GENERAL



JAMES T. BOFFETTI
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

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December 21, 2022

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Your Excellency and Members of the Council:

REQUESTED ACTION

That approval be and hereby is given to the Attorney General to appoint Sam Gonyea, Position #9U307 (Appropriation #02-20-20-200510-26100000-013-500132) as an Assistant Attorney General at a salary level of \$74,000, effective upon Governor and Executive Council approval or January 27, 2023, whichever is later, for a term ending May 21, 2023.

EXPLANATION

Mr. Gonyea, a Milford resident, graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Political Science from Fitchburg State University in 2014, where he competed on the Moot Court Team (2013) and Mock Trial Team (2014) and served as Moot Court Adjunct Professor (2020-2021). He earned a joint Juris Doctor and Master in Public Administration degree from Suffolk University's Law School and Sawyer Business School in 2019. While in law school, he was a Dean's List Scholar (2015-2019), Academic Leadership Scholarship recipient (2016-2019), Thomas J. Drinan Memorial Fellowship Recipient (2017), and Braxton Craven, Jr., Constitutional Law Moot Court Competition Finalist. He won Jurisprudence Awards for the scoring the highest grade in eight separate classes and was a member of both Phi Delta Phi International Legal Honors Society and Pi Alpha Alpha National Honor Society for Public Administration. From 2019 to 2021, Mr. Gonyea served as Judicial Law Clerk to the Chief Justice of the New Hampshire Supreme Court. He was an Associate at Donahue, Tucker and Ciandella, PLLC, in Exeter, from August 2021 to January 2022. He is admitted to practice in New Hampshire and Massachusetts. Mr. Gonyea joined the Department in 2022 and was assigned to the Criminal Justice Bureau's Appeals Unit. I plan to continue his current assignment. His salary will increase by \$2,176.40 from \$71,823.60 to \$74,000. A copy of his resume is attached.

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RSA 21-M:3 and RSA 94:1-a(I)(c)(3) provides that designation of positions, salary levels, and salary increases for attorneys at the Department of Justice shall be determined by the Attorney General, subject to approval of the Governor and Council, within appropriations made to the Department of Justice.

I am very pleased to offer Mr. Gonyea's appointment as an Assistant Attorney General at the above-referenced salary for your approval and respectfully urge your favorable consideration. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,



John M. Formella
Attorney General

Sam Gonyea

EDUCATION

Suffolk University Law School, Boston, MA

Suffolk University Sawyer Business School, Boston, MA

Juris Doctor / Master in Public Administration, May 2019

GPA: Juris Doctor: 3.92/4.00 | Class Rank: 2/244; Master of Public Administration: 4.00/4.00

Honors: Deans List 2015-2019; Academic Leadership Scholarship 2016-2019; Jurisprudence Awards Fall 2015: Criminal Law, Contracts, Civil Procedure; Jurisprudence Awards Spring 2016: Contracts, Constitutional Law, Best Oral Advocate: LPS; Jurisprudence Award Fall 2016: Federal Income Tax, Evidence; Phi Delta Phi International Legal Honors Society; Thomas J. Drinan Memorial Fellowship Recipient 2017; Jurisprudence Award: Corporations, Spring 2017; Dean's List 2015-2019; Pi Alpha Alpha National Honor Society for Public Administration.

Activities: Constitutional Law Moot Court Team – Braxton Craven, Jr. Competition Finalist

Fitchburg State University, Fitchburg, MA

Bachelor of Science Political Science, December 2014

GPA: 3.97/4.0

Activities: Moot Court Team, 2013, 2014; Mock Trial Team, 2014

PROFESSIONAL LICENSES

Bar Admissions: Massachusetts (2019), New Hampshire (2020); New Hampshire District Court (2021).

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

New Hampshire Attorney General's Office, Concord, NH

January 2022 – Present

- Draft appellate briefs and present oral argument before the New Hampshire Supreme Court.
- Evaluate State's appeal requests and draft recommendation memorandums relating to such requests.
- Draft pleadings and participate in hearings related to habeas corpus litigation.

Donahue, Tucker & Ciandella, PLLC, Exeter, NH

August 2021 – January 2022

Associate Attorney

- Drafted pleadings and letters on behalf of clients and partners; Interacted with clients and provided legal advice.

New Hampshire Supreme Court, Concord, NH

August 2019 – August 2021

Judicial Law Clerk to Chief Justice Gordon MacDonald

- Researched legal questions and evaluate legal arguments to advise the Justices of the Court on complex issues.
- Drafted legal memoranda and assisted Justices in drafting judicial opinions and orders.

Suffolk University Defender's Clinic, Boston, MA

August 2018 – May 2019

SJC Rule 3:03 Student Attorney

- Represented clients in bail arguments, probation surrender hearings, plea negotiations, and sentencing hearings.
- Drafted motions, letters, and other documents on behalf of clients.

Suffolk County District Attorney's Office – Appeals Division, Boston, MA

June 2017 – August 2017

Intern

- Wrote two appellate briefs on behalf of Commonwealth; argued one case before the Massachusetts Appeals Court.

Roach, Ioannidis & Megaloudis, LLC., Boston, MA

September 2016 – December 2016

Law Clerk

EXPERIENCE

Fitchburg State University, Fitchburg, MA

August 2020 – May 2021

Moot Court Adjunct Professor

ELECTED POSITION

Clinton Housing Authority Board of Directors, Clinton, MA

June 2013 – June 2014

Elected Member

- Attended meetings to discuss and address public housing issues and vote on budgetary and policy decisions.

INTERESTS

Writing, debating, current events, history, philosophy, government, reading, video games, music, sports.