ARC

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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July 5, 2023

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

1. That approval be and hereby is given to the Attorney General to grant a salary increase to Laura E. Lombardi, as an Assistant Attorney General, Position #9U048 (Appropriation #02-20-20-201010-2620-013-500132), from a salary level of $104,000 to a salary level of $116,000, **retroactive** to July 1, 2023, upon Governor and Executive Council approval as authorized by 2001 NH Laws Chapter 158, Section 101 and 2021 NH Laws Chapter 91.

2. Upon approval of paragraph 1, that further approval be and hereby is given to the Attorney General to reappoint Laura E. Lombardi, Position #9U048 (Appropriation #02-20-20-201010-2620-013-500132) as an Assistant Attorney General at a salary level of $116,000, effective upon the approval of the Governor and Executive Council or July 31, 2023, whichever is later, for a term ending July 31, 2028.

EXPLANATION

Requested Action 1 seeks your approval to implement a salary increase for Assistant Attorney General Laura E. Lombardi of $12,000, from $104,000 to $116,000. The proposed increase was calculated based on a merit-based system established by the Legislature in 2001 and is **retroactive** to the effective date of the 2024-2025 biennial budget when funds for the salary increase became available.

Requested Action 2 asks approval to reappoint Laura E. Lombardi as an Assistant Attorney General. Ms. Lombardi is a resident of Concord and a member of the New Hampshire Bar. She is a 1997 graduate of the University of Maine, School of Law and received a B.A. from

Bates College in 1994. She was a Law Clerk for the New Hampshire Superior Court and the Maine Supreme Judicial Court prior to joining the New Hampshire Department of Justice, Civil Bureau in August 2001. Ms. Lombardi was appointed as an Assistant Attorney General in August of 2002. She was designated as a Senior Assistant Attorney General in the Civil Bureau's Appeals Unit in 2014. I plan to continue her current assignment at a salary of $116,000. A copy of her resume is attached.

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 pleased to offer Ms. Lombardi's reappointment 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

#4072731

Laura E.B. Lombardi

Senior Assistant Attorney General

SUMMARY

Critical thinking, strategic oriented attorney focused on appellate advocacy with significant senior level appellate, trial, and client counseling experience and demonstrated success in legal research, writing, and editing.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Litigated hundreds of appellate cases in the New Hampshire Supreme Court
- Briefed and argued 3 cases in the First Circuit Court of Appeals
- Co-wrote brief to the United States Supreme Court in *Ayotte v. Planned Parenthood*
- Litigated cases dealing with significant state interests including school funding, statewide property tax, Medicaid Enhancement Tax, hospital rate litigation and other Medicaid-related litigation, and constitutional challenges to various state statutes
- Conducted three jury trials (two in state court, one in federal district court)
- Attended NAAG conferences relating to appellate advocacy, including State Solicitors General and Appellant Chiefs Conference, and conferences for United States Supreme Court Advocacy and Appellate Advocacy.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Office of the Attorney General, State of New Hampshire – 2001 to present

Civil Appellate Chief – 2014 to present

- Brief and argue civil cases to the New Hampshire Supreme Court
- Review and edit civil filings in the New Hampshire Supreme Court, First Circuit Court of Appeals, and United States Supreme Court
- Review cases that have been decided against the state and make recommendations on whether to appeal
- File amicus briefs in cases in which the state has a significant interest
- Track and assign all child protection and involuntary commitment appeals
- Counsel to New Hampshire Board of Medicine – 2018 to 2021

Civil Litigator – 2001 to 2018

- Engage in all aspects of litigating civil cases varying from constitutional challenges, inmate litigation, tort cases, employment litigation, RSA 91-A litigation
- Conduct depositions, motion hearings, evidentiary hearings, bench trials, and jury trials

Criminal Appeals – 2001 to 2003

- Briefed and argued criminal cases in the New Hampshire Supreme Court

Other Employment

Maine Supreme Judicial Court – 2000-2001

- Law clerk for Justice Rudman and Justice Calkins

New Hampshire Superior Court – 1997-2000

- Law clerk for Judges Bruce Mohl, Tina Nadeau, Peter Fauver, and James O'Neill.

Legal Internships

- Smith Elliott Smith & Garmey, P.A., Portland, Maine – summer 1996
- Hancock County District Attorney's Office, Ellsworth, Maine – summer 1995
- Pine Tree Legal Assistance, Bangor, Maine – summer 1995

EDUCATION

University of Maine School of Law, Juris Doctor, *Cum Laude* (1997)

- *Maine Law Review*
- Received First Honors at University of Buckingham, England (spring semester 1996)
- Recipient: **Justice Abraham M. Rudman Scholarship*, 1995

Bates College, Bachelor of Arts, English with creative writing concentration, *Cum Laude* (1994)

- Captain of women's squash team (1994)
- Recipient:
  * *Henry W. and Raymond S. Oakes Fellowship Fund* (Pursuing Legal Career) 1994
  * *Alice Jane Dinsmore Wandke Award* (Creative Writing) 1992
  * *Bates College President's Prize* (Academic Achievement) 1992

OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS AND INTERESTS

Ran a 50-mile ultramarathon; climbed all 48 of New Hampshire's 4000-foot mountains twice; enjoy mountain biking, skiing, and an array of other activities with my husband, daughter and son.