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Richard E. Samdperil, Acting Executive Director  
State House Annex - Room 120  
25 Capitol Street  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301-6312  
www.judicialcouncil.nh.gov

September 5, 2023

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

**REQUESTED ACTION**

Pursuant to RSA 94:6, the Chair of the Judicial Council respectfully requests to place Mr. Jay M. Buckey of Grantham, New Hampshire at Step 05 of unclassified salary grade HH, earning \$120,120.00 annually for the position of Executive Director, position #9U616, effective upon Governor and Council approval or November 3, 2023, whichever is later. 100% General Funds.

**EXPLANATION**

The Judicial Council respectfully requests an entrance salary higher than the minimum salary within the established range of unclassified salary grade HH for Mr. Jay M. Buckey, position #9U616, Executive Director, who has been a lawyer practicing in New Hampshire courts for since 2011.

RSA 494:7 authorizes the Judicial Council to appoint an Executive Director – qualified by reason of education and experience – to serve at its pleasure. The Executive Director is responsible for administering the indigent defense delivery system and ensuring its quality and cost-effectiveness. This involves provision of general supervision over the Public Defender Program and recruitment of qualified attorneys to serve as court-appointed counsel. The Executive Director also works with other state partners, such as New Hampshire Legal Assistance (NHLA) and CASA of New Hampshire, to provide funding for civil legal services programs and guardians ad litem in child protection cases.

Mr. Buckey holds a Juris Doctor from Vermont Law School, where he graduated *magna cum laude*, and a Bachelor of Arts from Georgetown University. Mr. Buckey is currently an associate at Shaheen & Gordon, P.A., in Concord, where he practices civil litigation. He previously worked as a public defender for eleven years, during which he served for four years as the managing attorney of the Public Defender's Newport office. Mr. Buckey has also taught criminal law at the Vermont Law School.

Based upon Mr. Buckey's education and experience as an attorney representing individuals in New Hampshire courts for 12 years, authority to place him into the Executive Director, #9U616, unclassified grade HH, at step 05 earning \$120,120.00 annually is respectfully requested.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
On behalf of Nina C. Gardner,  
Chairperson,



Richard E. Samdperil  
Acting Executive Director

JAY M. BUCKEY

Phone: [REDACTED]

## EMPLOYMENT/EXPERIENCE

### **Shaheen & Gordon — Associate**

Concord, New Hampshire, January 2023 - present

- Practice general civil litigation, including representing clients in lawsuits, employment matters, and landlord/tenant matters.
- Represent students in Title IX matters.

### **New Hampshire Public Defender — Managing Attorney**

Newport, New Hampshire, October 2018 - January 2023

- Managed a public defender office of three other attorneys and two support staff.
- Maintained a full caseload and all the responsibilities of a staff attorney.
- Assigned cases and answered questions from staff attorneys regarding specific cases.
- Represented the office's interests with the courts and prosecutor offices.
- Resolved personnel issues within the office.
- Mentored and supervised interns/externs.

### **Vermont Law School — Adjunct Professor**

South Royalton, Vermont, Spring 2021 and Spring 2022

- Taught criminal law as part of the core first year curriculum.

### **New Hampshire Public Defender — Staff Attorney**

Keene and Newport, New Hampshire, September 2011 - October 2018

- Represented indigent defendants in criminal cases, ranging from driving offenses to serious felonies.

## EDUCATION

**Vermont Law School**, South Royalton, Vermont—Juris Doctor, May 2011

- Graduated Magna Cum Laude.
- Vermont Law Review, Articles Committee.
- Merit Scholar.

**Georgetown University**, Washington, D.C.—B.A., Government, May 2006

- Minors: Economics, French.

## AWARDS

- International Academy of Trial Lawyers Award (2011)

## PUBLICATIONS

- "Firearms for Felons? A Proposal to Prohibit Felons From Possessing Firearms in Vermont." 35, Book 4 of the Vermont Law Review.