ATTORNEY GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03301

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January 10, 2024

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 reappoint Stephen S. Pecora to serve on the New Hampshire Victims' Assistance Commission. Mr. Pecora will be serving a 3-year term effective upon approval of the Governor and Executive Council through February 3, 2027.

EXPLANATION

NH RSA 21-M:8-g authorizes the Attorney General to nominate, for approval by the Governor and Executive Council, members to serve on the New Hampshire Victims' Assistance Commission. It is the responsibility of the Commission to review claims for financial reimbursement of expenses submitted by innocent victims of violent crimes. This program has been in effect since 1990.

Mr. Pecora has 26 years' experience in law enforcement, including seven years as a military police officer with the United States' Marine Corps. He was the Chief of the Hopkinton Police Department for over ten years. He retired from that position in 2021 and joined the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office, first as a Deputy Sheriff, and then as a Professional Standards and Compliance Investigator. Mr. Pecora joined the Victims' Assistance Commission on February 3, 2021. Chief Pecora's knowledge and expertise in law enforcement and working with crime victims will continue to benefit the operation of the Victims' Assistance Commission.

Please let me know if you have any questions concerning this request. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

John M. Formella
Attorney General

#4334409

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STEPHEN S. PECORA

EDUCATION

Master of Science — Southern New Hampshire University
Organizational Leadership, Business Administration (May 2010) — Manchester, NH

Bachelor of Arts — Stonehill College
Criminal Justice, Minor in Psychology (May 1998) — Easton, MA

EXPEREINCE

Professional Standards and Compliance Investigator, February 2023-Present
Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office

- Represent the Chief Executive Officer in the absence of the Sheriff.
- Establish policies, procedures, and directives to implement advanced constitutional policing models and tactics.
- Manage agency background investigations, internal affairs investigations, and criminal misconduct investigations.
- Develop and maintain comprehensive accreditations and re-accreditation plans in accordance with the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) standards.
- Create training curriculums to enhance policy and procedures based on State and Federal guidelines.

Deputy Sheriff, October 2021-February 2023
Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office

- Responsible for the enforcement of applicable laws of the State of New Hampshire.
- Performed assigned duties in accordance with New Hampshire criminal, civil, motor vehicle, and juvenile laws, including investigations, civil process, transportation of prisoners, extradition of fugitives, as well as additional law enforcement responsibilities, while conforming to the rules, regulations, and general orders of the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office.
- Conducted pre-employment background investigations for candidate suitability, honesty, and accuracy.

Chief of Police, March 2010-November 2021 (Retired)
Hopkinton Police Department

- Developed and implemented strategic programs fostering efficient and effective operations of the department along with community, state, and federal stakeholders.
- Provided a variety of solutions to complex problems and issues challenging the community, including Safe Routes to School programs, Distracted Driver programs, Controlled Drug Disposal, Public Health Preparedness for epidemics, and Critical Infrastructure Protection planning.
- Motivated and led employees to work effectively with citizens, community groups, and elected officials.
- Instituted accountability practices, streamline assignments, and enhance departmental resources for major investigations.
- Collaborated with school officials and citizens to design and implement a comprehensive school district security program to increase community confidence regarding national cases of school-based violence.

- Demonstrated strong ability to manage a full-service police department within budgetary constraints.

Police Lieutenant, June 2006-March 2010
Hopkinton Police Department

- Responsible for planning and supervision of overall activities of the department in the absence of the Chief of Police.
- Conducted staff recruitment, development, and evaluations. Investigated internal affair matters related to personnel.
- Assisted in the preparation and presentation of the operating budget for the Select Board and Budget Committee.
- Wrote and obtained grants for additional patrol enforcement to include traffic enforcement, accident deterrence, as well as drug and alcohol prevention.
- Scheduled all employees to provide 24-hour a day, 365 days a year police coverage to the community in accordance with budget restrictions.
- Completed all aspects of payroll and billing requirements in accordance with local, state and federal guidelines.
- Addressed public questions and concerns related to operations and procedures.
- Conducted ongoing supervision and prepared annual reports of Evidence Room and contents.
- Organized the inspection and audit of department equipment.
- Managed training for department and individual personnel.
- Liaison with the Information Analysis Center regarding confidential investigations and planning of various Community Events to include annual State Fair which averaged over 100,000 attendees.

Emergency Management Director, February 2006-November 2021
Town of Hopkinton

- Responsible for the management and planning of the Point of Dispensing (POD) operations to include safety and security of over 15,000 residents from Hopkinton, Bradford, Dunbarton, Warner, and Webster.
- Researched and wrote grants for emergency operations to include funding of $7,000 digital base radio as well as $100,000 emergency shelter generator.
- Assisted in the development, implementation, and continuous updates of Hopkinton's Hazardous Mitigation plan.
- Appointed as Justice of the Peace for the State of New Hampshire.
- Completed U.S. Department of Homeland Security Incident Command System training IS 100, IS 200, and IS 700.
- Served as Incident Commander and POD Manager working with the State of New Hampshire Health and Human Services regarding Hepatitis A outbreak in 2013; over 1,000 individuals were vaccinated in a 48-hour period.
- Managed recovery operations following July 2012 Microburst. Coordinated disaster assistance for residence including public works and utility company resources. Communicated with National Weather Service and New Hampshire Homeland Security throughout the aftermath.
- Served as Incident Commander for the community and liaison to New Hampshire Homeland Security and Emergency Management during the December ice storms of 2008 as well as the floods of 2006 and 2007.

Police Sergeant, July 2003-June 2006
Hopkinton Police Department

- Accreditation Manager in charge of policy updates and revisions in accordance with the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA).
- Supervised training related to legal and procedural updates.
- Served as shift commander assisting subordinates in conducting complete and accurate investigations.
- Reviewed and coordinated reports in preparation for the court.
- Prosecuted criminal cases before the court.
- Provided follow-up investigations assuring detailed and meticulous accounts of information.
- Served as the direct liaison to the school district for school related incidents and events.
- Prepared and implemented public education programs including forums on drug and alcohol awareness, safe driving, fraud prevention, and harassment protection.

Patrol Officer, May 2000-July 2003
Hopkinton Police Department

- Performed a full range of duties necessary to enforce local and state laws while preventing or deterring crime, arresting violators, and protecting the life and property of the public.
- Helped to maintain order in the community, investigated complaints, responded to and investigated motor vehicle accidents involving serious personal injury and death.
- Investigated reports of crimes in progress, resolved conflicts, answered calls for police service, assisted individuals in crisis or need, provided mutual aid to other law enforcement agencies in emergencies when requested, and provided additional police services to the public as necessary.
- Performed a variety of unplanned physical tasks which included subduing and restraining individuals who were to be taken into custody.

Military Police Officer, February 1998-February 2005
United States Marine Corps

- Obtained government secret security clearance authorization.
- Upheld the criminal justice system to include state, local, and federal laws as well as the uniformed code of military justice.
- Maintained good order and discipline while supporting law enforcement and security requirements in peacetime and combat operations.
- Responsible for foot and motorized patrols, control of pedestrian and vehicular traffic, flight line security, crime prevention, and physical security.
- Served as communications specialist, shift supervisor, squad leader, operations sergeant, and platoon sergeant.
- Worked with CIA, FBI, and Secret Service agents to gather police intelligence for operations and provide area security.
- Served in combat operations during Iraq war.

ADDITIONAL TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

- Governor's Commission Against Domestic and Sexual Violence Seminar
- Attorney General's Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect Seminar
- Attorney General's Coalition Against Sexual Assault Investigations

- Attorney General's Task Force on Drug Investigation and Methamphetamine Lab Seminar
- Attorney General's Office training on Officer Involved Shootings
- Attorney General's Jay McDuffee Motor Vehicle Homicide Seminar
- Department of Justice Criminal Intelligence Sharing: Protecting Privacy, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties
- Department of Justice Problem-Oriented Policing
- Department of Homeland Security Crises Management for School Based Incidents
- Daigle Law Group Accreditation Manager Certification Program
- Daigle Law Group Advanced Internal Affairs Investigations Certification Program
- Daigle Law Group Background Investigations Certification Program
- New Hampshire Police Standards & Training Internal Affairs Investigations
- New Hampshire Anti-School Violence Awareness and Prevention Conference
- New Hampshire Annual Emergency Preparedness Conference
- New Hampshire Municipal Association training on Right-to-Know Law, RSA Chapter 91-A
- New Hampshire Public Risk Management Exchange training on FMLA and FLSA
- Sheehan, Phinney, Bass, and Green update of Public Sector Labor and Employment Law
- Primex Fair and Impartial Policing Command Course
- Diversity Workforce Coalition De-Biasing Techniques
- Homeland Security Emergency Management Behavior Based Approach to Preventing Targeted Violence
- Merrimack County Attorney's training on Crime Scene Investigation
- New Hampshire State Police training on Response to Active Shooter
- Marine Corps Non-Commissioned Officer's Course Quantico, Virginia
- Marine Corps Certified Special Weapons and Tactics
- New Hampshire Police Standards & Training Police Prosecutor School
- New Hampshire Police Standards & Training Instructor Development School
- New Hampshire Police Standards & Training Certified Field Training Officer
- New Hampshire Police Standards & Training Certified Physical Fitness Instructor
- Granite State Children's Alliance Forensic Interview training
- Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events Train-the-Trainer
- New Hampshire Division of Fire Standards and Training and Emergency Medical Services Heroin Epidemic and Public Safety Challenges

SELECTED AWARDS

- Town of Hopkinton Certificate of Appreciation
- Town of Hopkinton Certificate of Accommodation
- Hopkinton School District SAU 66 Champion for Children Award
- United States Marine Corps Meritorious Mast
- Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal
- United States Marine Corps Outstanding Physical Fitness Award
- Department of the Navy, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal
- Department of the Air Force, Air Force Achievement Medal--Nominated

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- United States Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 1631 Concord, NH, Life Member
- United States Marine Corps League, Gary S. Dillon Detachment, Active Member
- New Hampshire Association of Chiefs of Police, Life Member

- Merrimack County Child Advocacy Center Advisory Board (Through 2021)
- Hopkinton Youth Support Team (Through 2021)
- Hopkinton Community Outreach Steering Committee/Advisory Board (Through 2021)
- Contoocook School, NFI North Advisory Board (Through 2021)
- Hopkinton Complete Streets Committee (Through 2021)