ATTORNEY GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

1 GRANITE PLACE SOUTH
CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03301

JOHN M. FORMELLA
ATTORNEY GENERAL

JAMES T. BOFFETTI
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

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May 15, 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 appoint James J. Godbout Position #9U060 (Appropriation #02-20-20-201010-2623-013-500132) as an Attorney at a salary level of $90,000, effective upon Governor and Executive Council approval or May 31, 2024, whichever is later.

EXPLANATION

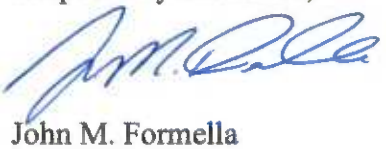
Mr. Godbout, a Canterbury resident, earned his Bachelor of Arts in Communications from University of New Hampshire in 1989, and his Juris Doctor from Franklin Pierce Law Center in 1993. Following a judicial clerkship in Connecticut, he returned to New Hampshire as Co-Director of the Dispute Resolution Institute at Franklin Pierce Law Center (1995-1996) and as Assistant to the President of the Law Center (1994-1996). After serving as Program Coordinator for the Massachusetts Office of Dispute Resolution (1996-1997), he practiced law as an Associate Attorney at Moynihan & Michalik in Berlin (1998 to 2000). Mr. Godbout was a Staff Attorney for the New Hampshire Division for Children, Youth and Families in Berlin (2000-2001) and a Staff Attorney for the New Hampshire Public Defender in Stratham (2001-2015). After leaving the Public Defender program, he operated his own practice focusing on criminal defense (2018-2020) and served Of Counsel for Jillian Kalosky Investigations, LLC (2018-2024). He is admitted to practice law in Connecticut and New Hampshire. Considering Mr. Godbout's experience, I am requesting that he be appointed as an Attorney with a salary of $90,000. He will be assigned to the Public Safety and Infrastructure Bureau. His resume is attached.

RSA 21-M:3 and 94:1-a provide 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 Mr. Godbout's appointment as an Attorney at the above-referenced salary for your approval and respectfully urge your favorable consideration. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,



John M. Formella
Attorney General

#4501335

JAMES J. GODBOUT

Experience

Of Counsel, Jillian Kalosky Investigations, LLC, Concord, NH *January 2018 – present*
Provide in-house counsel to statewide private investigation firm, including review and annotation of discovery materials; issue spotting and identification of potential avenues of investigation; fielding staff questions about relevant law and procedure; and editing investigative reports and memoranda.

Attorney, Law Office of James J. Godbout, Nashua, NH *June 2018 - August 2020*
Solo practitioner concentrating exclusively in criminal defense litigation in NH state courts.

Staff Attorney, New Hampshire Public Defender, Stratham, NH *January 2001 - September 2015*
Represented indigent defendants at all stages of the criminal trial process. Routinely advocated in family, district, and superior courts. Responsible for large and active case load of misdemeanor and felony matters. Regularly mentored junior attorneys regarding all aspects of trial practice.

Staff Attorney, New Hampshire Division for Children, Youth & Families, Berlin, NH *April 2000 - January 2001*
Prosecuted child abuse and neglect petitions in district & family courts, and *de novo* appeal trials in superior court. Litigated termination of parental rights & guardianship of minor cases in probate court.

Associate Attorney, Moynihan & Michalik, Berlin, NH *January 1998 - April 2000*
General practitioner in busy rural law firm. Maintained active and diverse caseload in civil and criminal arenas. Routinely handled matters involving marital & family, landlord/tenant, collections, domestic violence, DWI, and criminal misdemeanors. Extensive experience defending mentally ill clients in involuntary commitment proceedings.

Program Coordinator, Massachusetts Office of Dispute Resolution, Boston, MA *February 1996 - December 1997*
Administered all aspects of Suffolk Superior Court Mediation Program. Evaluated pending civil actions for mediation potential. Conducted alternative dispute resolution screening conferences in open court. Managed panel of fifty mediators. Observed, monitored and critiqued mediator performance.

Assistant to the President, Franklin Pierce Law Center, Concord, NH *October 1994 - January 1996*
Assistant to law school president Robert M. Viles. Conducted research and drafted position papers and memoranda concerning diverse issues before the President. Represented the Office of the President at civic functions, community events, and internal committee meetings. Promoted the interests and image of the law school in the press by drafting news releases and fielding inquiries from journalists.

Co-Director, Dispute Resolution Institute at Franklin Pierce Law Center *May 1995 - February 1996*
Taught specialized mediation skills to law students and attorneys through classroom instruction and lecture, role-play, observation, and critique. Supervised volunteers and co-mediated with trainees during district court mediation sessions. Assisted law school faculty and professional staff with contract training and research endeavors.

Education

Franklin Pierce Law Center, Concord, NH
Juris Doctor, 1993

University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH
Bachelor of Arts, Communications, 1989

Admitted to Practice in New Hampshire (1996) and Connecticut (1993)