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**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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October 2, 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 Joyce Samuel to Position #9U733 (Appropriation #02-20-20-200510-2620-500132) as an Attorney at a salary level of \$92,000, effective upon Governor and Executive Council approval or October 18, 2024, whichever is later.

EXPLANATION

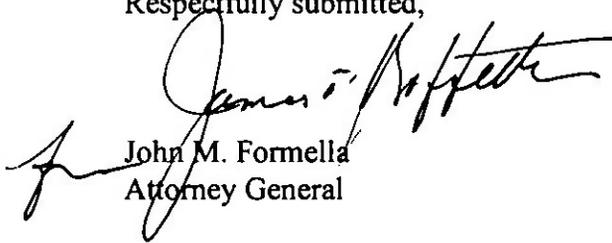
Ms. Samuel, a Pittsfield resident, earned her Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from Georgia College and State University in 2004, her Juris Doctor from University of Massachusetts School of Law in 2007, and her Masters in Intellectual Property from University of New Hampshire School of Law in 2009. She began her law career as an Associate at Rudolph Friedmann LLP in 2011 focusing on insurance defense work—leaving to join the Law Office of Michael G. Tracy when he departed the firm. From 2016 to 2017, she was an Associate at Heifetz Rose LLP in Needham, Massachusetts, where she expanded her practice to include plaintiff's personal injury claims. From 2018 to 2022, she was an Associate at the Law Office of Steven P. Brendenmuehl in Natick, Massachusetts, representing clients at administrative hearings before the Social Security Administration Office of Adjudication and Review. She has worked at the New Hampshire Commission for Human Rights as an Anti-Discrimination Investigator since 2022 investigating discrimination complaints in areas of employment, housing, and public accommodations. She has been admitted to practice law in New Hampshire since 2020. Considering Ms. Samuel's experience, I am requesting she be appointed as an Attorney at a salary of \$92,000. She will be assigned to the Civil Bureau's Client Counseling Unit. A copy of her resume is attached.

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RSA 21-M:3 and RSA 94:1-a, (I)(c) 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 very pleased to offer Ms. Samuel'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

#4688718

JOYCE J. SAMUEL

BAR ADMISSIONS:

New Hampshire
Massachusetts
United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts

LEGAL EXPERIENCE:

New Hampshire Commission for Human Rights – Concord, NH

Anti-Discrimination Investigator: June 2022 – Present

- Manage active investigations of discrimination complaints in areas of employment, housing, and public accommodation.
- Conduct interviews of parties and witnesses, collect and analyze evidence to draft concise report of facts, analysis of applicable legal standards, and final recommended finding(s) for approval by investigating commissioner.
- Draft orders on motions filed in assigned cases for approval by investigating commissioner.
- Facilitate settlement discussions between parties in assigned cases, when appropriate.
- Act as formal mediator in pending file cases.
- Conduct outreach and education at state-wide events.

Law Office of Steven P. Brendemuehl – Natick, MA

Associate Attorney: August 2018 – June 2022

- Represented individuals at administrative hearings throughout the United States before the Social Security Administration Office of Adjudication and Review.
- Fully prepared clients to give testimony before Administrative Law Judges.
- Reviewed medical records to analyze and assess viability of disability claims.
- Drafted pre-hearing briefs, post-hearing briefs, and requests for on-the-record decisions.

Heifetz Rose LLP – Needham, MA

Associate Attorney: January 2016 – December 2017

- Represented individuals and businesses as insurance defense counsel in a wide range of civil claims and litigation. Areas of practice included general and premises liability, professional liability claims against insurance agents, claims against landscapers and arborists, equine liability, construction accidents, commercial automobile accidents, and business disputes.
- Represented plaintiffs in personal injury claims.
- Handled all aspects of litigation and pre-trial preparation including investigating claims, attending property inspections and testing, coordinating with expert witnesses and consultants, conducting legal research, interviewing clients and witnesses, conducting written discovery, deposing parties and non-party witnesses, attending court conferences and hearings, preparing and arguing motions, and attending mediations.
- Negotiated settlements of civil claims and suits on behalf of defendants.
- Collaborated directly with adjusters on litigation strategies and resolution of claims.
- Drafted and argued motions for summary judgment in Massachusetts Superior Court.
- Advocated for clients in evidentiary hearings and small claims trials in Massachusetts District Court.

Law Office of Michael G. Tracy, Rudolph Friedmann LLP – Boston, MA

Associate Attorney: January 2011 – December 2015

- Represented clients in wide range of insurance defense matters including attorney malpractice and product liability. Counseled insurers on coverage issues under both GL and E&O policies.
- Drafted and responded to written discovery; prepared pleadings and other court documents, including motions for summary judgment, under direction of senior attorney.

Paralegal: August 2009 – October 2010

- Reviewed and analyzed documents; managed all discovery in complex construction defect case.

Law Office of L. Craig Gannaway, LLC – Dublin, GA

Research Assistant: May 2008 – July 2008

- Conducted legal research and provided litigation support to attorneys.
- Drafted complaints and other documents in areas of family law, criminal law, and probate law.
- Assisted with filing documents in criminal and civil courts.

OTHER EXPERIENCE:

University of Massachusetts School of Law Library – North Dartmouth, MA

Assistant Research Librarian: August 2006 – June 2007

Law Office of John R. Mitchell – Fall River, MA

Research Assistant: August 2006 – May 2007

Associates of Cape Cod – East Falmouth, MA

Lab Associate: June – August 2006

Imerys Kaolin Company – Sandersville, GA

Lab Research Intern: Summers 2003 & 2004

Georgia College & State University Department of Chemistry – Milledgeville, GA

Chemistry Tutor: August 2003 – May 2004

Lab Assistant: August 2001 – May 2003

Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI) – Milledgeville, GA

Intern: January 2002 – May 2002

EDUCATION:

University of New Hampshire School of Law

(f/k/a **Franklin Pierce Law Center**), Concord, NH

Masters in Intellectual Property, August 2009

Completed eLaw Institute held in Cork, Ireland, July 2009

University of Massachusetts School of Law

(f/k/a **Southern New England School of Law**), North Dartmouth, MA

Juris Doctor, May 2007

Georgia College & State University, Milledgeville, GA

Bachelor of Science, May 2004

Major: Chemistry; Minor: Criminal Justice