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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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September 29, 2025

Her Excellency, Governor Kelly A. Ayotte
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 Keely Lovato to Position #9U737 (Appropriation #02-20-20-200510-2613-013-500132), as an Assistant Attorney General, at a salary level of \$83,000, effective upon Governor and Executive Council approval or October 18, 2025, whichever is later, for a term ending October 18, 2030.

EXPLANATION

Ms. Lovato, a Manchester resident, earned her Bachelor of Arts, *magna cum laude*, in Biology from Kenyon College in 2020, where she was a Merit Scholar for five semesters and Captain of the Varsity Cross Country Team. She earned her Juris Doctor from Northeastern University School of Law in 2023. During law school, she was an Evidence Teaching Assistant for Professor Daniel Medwed, served on the Executive Board of the Environmental Law Society, and interned with the Conservation Law Foundation and Earthjustice Clean Energy Program. Also in 2023, she received her Master's Degree in Environmental Law and Policy from Vermont Law School, where she graduated with distinction and received Academic Excellence Awards in Legal Essentials of the Energy Grid and Environmental Governance and the Private Sector. In August 2023, Ms. Lovato began serving as a Law Clerk for Associate Justice Serge Georges at the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court. Ms. Lovato is a member of the Massachusetts and New Hampshire Bar. Ms. Lovato joined the Department in 2024 and was assigned to the Environmental Protection Bureau. I plan to continue her current assignment. Her salary will increase by \$3,000 from \$80,000 to \$83,000. A copy of her resume is attached.

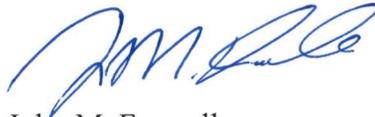
RSA 21-M:3 and RSA 94:1-a(I)(c)(3) provide that the designation of positions, salary levels, and salary increases for attorneys at the Department of Justice shall be determined by the

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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. Lovato's appointment 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

#5221805

BAR ADMISSIONS

New Hampshire, September 2024
Massachusetts, December 2023

EXPERIENCE

New Hampshire Department of Justice, Concord, NH October 2024 to present
Attorney, Environmental Protection Bureau

Represent state agencies, including the Department of Environmental Services, in criminal, civil, and administrative proceedings. Serve as counsel for the public before the Site Evaluation Committee. Draft briefs for the New Hampshire Supreme Court in Division for Children, Youth and Families appeals. Review state agency contracts for form, substance, and execution.

Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, Boston, MA August 2023 – August 2024
Law Clerk for Associate Justice Serge Georges

Drafted judicial opinions on civil and criminal cases. Assisted the court in preparing for oral arguments by writing recitation memorandums, which summarized the case, analyzed the issues, and recommended holdings to the Court. Reviewed applications for further appellate review and supervise legal interns.

Earthjustice Clean Energy Program, New York, NY January 2023 - April 2023
Legal Intern

Researched and drafted an appeal of the Department of Energy's determination that records sought by Earthjustice were exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act. Investigated "right to mine" cryptocurrency legislation. Researched the legitimacy and purpose of the Federal Power Act's notice provision.

Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, Boston, MA January 2022 - May 2022
Judicial Intern

Drafted five recitation memorandums on cases before the Court. Reviewed applications for further appellate review and made recommendations to the court regarding whether review was warranted.

Northeastern University School of Law, Boston, MA September 2021 - December 2021
Research Assistant

Conducted substantive cite-checking for an article on property rights, natural resource scarcity and climate change, which was published in the *Columbia Law Review*. Cite-checked footnotes for a book about race and financial justice.

Conservation Law Foundation, Boston, MA May 2021 - August 2021
Legal Intern

Researched claims under common law, Federal statutes including CERCLA, RCRA, and various utility regulations related to New England Superfund sites and climate resilience. Wrote numerous research memoranda, contributed to reports, and gave a presentation at a symposium to over 80 people.

EDUCATION

Northeastern University School of Law, Boston, MA
Juris Doctor, May 2023

- Honors: Merit Scholarship
- Publications: Legal Mapping for Resilience: Navajo Nation, <http://humanright2water.org/publications/>
- Teaching Assistant: Evidence; Professor Daniel Medwed, Fall 2022
- Activities: Executive Board Environmental Law Society
- 1L Social Justice Project: Contributed to white paper on trauma-informed lawyering for Eastbay Sanctuary, a nonprofit dedicated to helping asylum seekers.

Vermont Law and Graduate School, South Royalton, VT
Master's Degree in Environmental Law and Policy, May 2023

- Honors: Graduated with distinction, received Academic Excellence Awards in Legal Essentials of the Energy Grid and Environmental Governance and the Private Sector.

Keely Lovato

keely.lovato@doj.nh.gov

Kenyon College, Gambier, OH

Bachelor of Arts, *magna cum laude*, in Biology, Anthropology minor, May 2020

- Honors: Merit list, five semesters
- Activities: Varsity Cross Country, Captain; Varsity Track
- Research Assistant: Kenyon College Biology Department (Fall 2017-Spring 2020); Northeastern University Biology Department (Summer 2018); University of New Mexico Biology Department (Summer 2019)