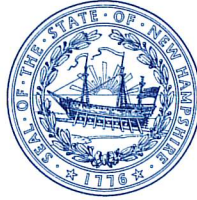


**ATTORNEY GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

4F - 6/3/26

1 GRANITE PLACE SOUTH
CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03301

JOHN M. FORMELLA
ATTORNEY GENERAL



JAMES T. BOFFETTI
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

May 14, 2026

Her Excellency, Governor Kelly A. Ayotte
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Your Excellency and Members of the Council:

REQUESTED ACTIONS

1. That approval be and hereby is given to the Attorney General to appoint Mary Ann Dempsey to Position #9U049 (Appropriation #02-20-20-201010-26010000-013-500132) as an Assistant Attorney General at a salary level of \$131,250, effective upon Governor and Executive Council approval or June 3, 2026, whichever is later, for a term ending June 14, 2026. 99% General Funds 1% Other.
2. Contingent upon approval of Requested Action #1, that approval be and hereby is given to the Attorney General to reappoint Mary Ann Dempsey (Position #9U049, Appropriation #02-20-20-201010-26010000-013-500132) as an Assistant Attorney General at a salary level of \$131,250, effective upon Governor and Executive Council approval, or June 15, 2026, whichever is later, for a term ending June 14, 2031.

EXPLANATION

Ms. Dempsey is a Merrimack resident licensed to practice law in New Hampshire and Massachusetts. She graduated, *cum laude*, from Clark University in 1994 with a Bachelor of Arts in Government. She earned her Juris Doctor in 1997 from Boston College Law School where she won the John F. Cremens Graduate Award for Outstanding Work in Clinical Programs. She served as a law clerk for the New Hampshire Superior Court (1997-1999) before joining Wiggin & Nourie, P.A., as a litigation attorney (1999-2011). Ms. Dempsey joined the Department of Justice as a Senior Assistant Attorney General in 2011 and was assigned Chief of the Civil Law Bureau overseeing 15 attorneys, two paralegals, four legal secretaries, and an investigator. She left the Department in 2015 to join Governor Margaret Wood Hassan's office as Legal Counsel. In that capacity she advised the Governor and her policy and communications staff on complex issues including pending legislation, state budget, personnel, health care

Her Excellency, Governor Kelly A. Ayotte
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May 14, 2026
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initiatives, and litigation. She next worked with the New Hampshire Judicial Branch - first as General Counsel (2016-2023) and more recently as a Circuit Court Administrator (2023-2024). Ms. Dempsey has served on the New Hampshire Supreme Court Society's Board of Trustees since 2015. She previously served as President of the Manchester Bar Association (2010-2011) and member of the New Hampshire Bar Association's Board of Governors (2014-2015). She won the New Hampshire Bar Foundation's Robert E. Kirby Award in 2006, and the Manchester Bar Association's Distinguished Service Award in 2016. She joined the Department as Assistant Director of the Charitable Trust Unit on May 31, 2024, and was appointed as Director of Charitable Trusts on June 28, 2024. She will assume the position of General Counsel for the Department. Her salary will increase by \$5,250 from \$126,000 to \$131,250. A copy of her resume is attached.

RSA 21-M:3 and RSA 94:1-a(I)(c)(3) 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. Dempsey's appointment as an Assistant Attorney General at the above-referenced salary for your approval and respectfully urge your favorable consideration.

Respectfully submitted,



John M. Formella
Attorney General

MARY ANN DEMPSEY

Licensed to practice law in Massachusetts and New Hampshire

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

NEW HAMPSHIRE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE

DIRECTOR OF CHARITABLE TRUSTS (MAY 2024 - PRESENT)

CIVIL BUREAU CHIEF AND SENIOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL (SEPT. 2011 – FEB. 2015)

- Manage the Charitable Trust Unit in its exercise of all common law and statutory rights, duties, and powers of the Attorney General in supervising and enforcing charitable trusts.
- Conduct statutory review of proposed healthcare acquisitions in accordance with RSA 7-19:b.
- Manage the registration and annual reporting process of over 12,000 charities.
- Conduct educational training to non-profit boards and management on board governance, fiduciary responsibilities, internal controls, and conflicts of interest.
- As Civil Bureau Chief, managed the Civil Bureau's daily operations to advise state agencies and litigate civil cases.
- Managed the elections unit which oversaw all state and federal elections in New Hampshire.
- Advised Attorney General on all state and federal litigation as well as budgeting issues.
- Served as lead attorney on high-profile cases involving constitutional challenges to the Medicaid Enhancement Tax, Liquor Commission's competitive bid of 20-year liquor warehouse contract, and employment actions against the Judicial Branch and Department of Corrections.

NEW HAMPSHIRE JUDICIAL BRANCH

CIRCUIT COURT ADMINISTRATOR (APRIL 2023 – MAY 2024)

GENERAL COUNSEL (NOV. 2016 - MARCH 2023)

- Work directly with the Circuit Court Administrative Judge and Deputy Administrative Judge as part of the management team of the largest court system within the Judicial Branch. My responsibilities included collaborating with Circuit Court Clerks and Managers on all aspects of personnel decisions including performance evaluations, training managers and staff on the Americans with Disabilities Act, and ensuring compliance with state law, court rules and procedures.
- As General Counsel, provided legal advice to Chief Justice and the Associate Justices of the New Hampshire Supreme Court, the Administrative Judges of the Superior and Circuit Courts, and the Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts.
- Advised Human Resources on compliance with federal and state laws as well as personnel rules, collective bargaining agreements, and Judicial Branch policies.
- Managed all litigation in which the Judicial Branch was a party and conducted employment investigations.
- Negotiated with two labor unions and managed all grievances.
- Served as the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator.

OFFICE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE GOVERNOR MARGARET WOOD HASSAN (FEB. 2015 – NOV. 2016)

GOVERNOR'S LEGAL COUNSEL

- Advised New Hampshire Governor Margaret Wood Hassan and her policy and communications staff on complex issues including pending legislation, state budget, personnel, health care initiatives, and litigation.
- Crafted executive branch policies on substance abuse, mental health, and education.
- Drafted professional board rules on opioid prescribing practices enacted into law in 2016.
- Served as Governor's legal and policy advisor to Commissioners of all state agencies.

WIGGIN & NOURIE, P.A. (SEPT. 1999 - SEPT. 2011)

LITIGATION ATTORNEY

- Litigated civil cases involving personal injury, commercial, employment, and insurance coverage.

NEW HAMPSHIRE SUPERIOR COURT (SEPT. 1997 – SEPT. 1999)
LAW CLERK

- Performed legal research and drafted trial court decisions in civil, criminal, and equity cases.
- Served as Senior Law Clerk in my second-year supervising 12 other law clerks throughout the state.

EDUCATION

BOSTON COLLEGE LAW SCHOOL, JURIS DOCTORATE (1997)

- John F. Cremens Graduate Award: Outstanding Work in Clinical Programs

CLARK UNIVERSITY, BACHELOR OF ARTS (1994)

- Major: Government, graduated *Cum Laude*

PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Harvard Kennedy School of Government, Leaders in State and Local Government Program (2022)
- Manchester Bar Association's Award for Distinguished Service (2016)
- Authored Impeachment Chapter of a Practical Guide to Evidence in New Hampshire (2012)
- Invited Speaker at Supreme Court Confirmation Hearings of Justices Galway, Hicks, and Lynn
- New Hampshire Bar Association Board of Governors (2014-2015)
- Board of Trustees of New Hampshire Supreme Court Society (2015-Present)
- President of the Manchester Bar Association (2010-2011)
- Defense Research Institute - Outstanding State Representative Award (2007)
- New Hampshire Bar Foundation Robert E. Kirby Award (2006)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Admitted to Massachusetts Bar, 1997 - Present
- Admitted to New Hampshire Bar, 1998 – Present
- Admitted to United States District Court for the District of New Hampshire, 1999 - Present
- Admitted to United States Court of Appeals, First Circuit, 2002 - Present
- Admitted to United States Supreme Court, 2003 - Present
- Member of New Hampshire Women's Bar Association