



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

for

EMERGENCY RELIEF AND RECOVERY

5F - 9/16/26

August 26, 2026

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

REQUESTED ACTION

Authorize the Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR) to amend an existing Memorandum of Understanding with the New Hampshire Judicial Branch (NHJB) (Vendor Code #177872), Concord, NH by extending the completion date from September 30, 2026 to October 31, 2026, with no change to the price limitation of \$6,315,978, to upgrade courthouse security, increase remote resource access, and improve access to civil legal resources for populations adversely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, effective upon Governor and Council approval. The original MOU was approved by Governor and Executive Council on January 18, 2023, item #51 and amended on August 27, 2025, Item #41. This is an allowable use of ARPA SFRF funds under Section 602 (c)(1)(A) to respond to the public health emergency or its negative economic impacts. **100% Federal Funds.**

EXPLANATION

GOFERR requests to amend the attached Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the New Hampshire Judicial Branch (NHJB) to extend the completion date of this project. The extension of the completion date is necessary to allow NHJB to continue using the available balance for the purposes set forth below.

These funds are currently being used by NHJB to make key investments that were needed to adapt to the impacts of COVID-19 and the changes thereon. The projects are designed to remove barriers to justice that have been exacerbated by economic hardship brought on by the pandemic and provide legal information to unrepresented people, helping those without lawyers better understand their rights and the legal processes associated with their cases.

The funding associated with this request is currently and will continue to be used for the following projects:

- Courthouse Security Upgrades - measures due to strains caused by the years of the pandemic. These upgrades may include, but are not limited to, alarms, electronic access, and CCTV equipment that will allow for centralized and/or remote monitoring.
- Supreme Court Historic Records Conversion - conversion of historic records at the Supreme Court. The Law Library provides remote services to members of the public, and that access

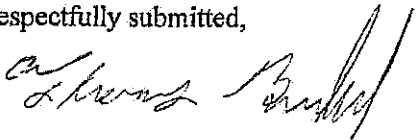
was expanded throughout the pandemic so more resources could be accessed remotely. This project will further this access by converting historic paper records at the Law Library into electronic format.

- Addressing the Civil Legal Needs of Marginalized Litigants - provision of legal information to unrepresented people. This project will focus on the civil legal needs of New Hampshire citizens that were adversely impacted by job loss, health matters, and other hardships brought on by COVID-19.

Approval of this request for a one-month extension will allow NHJB to continue these important projects through October 31, 2026.

In the event that Federal Funds become no longer available, General Funds will not be requested to support this program.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas R. Broderick
Deputy Director, GOFERR

State of New Hampshire
Amendment to Inter-Department Memorandum of Understanding

The State of New Hampshire Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR) and the New Hampshire Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) hereby mutually agree to amend the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) previously entered into and signed by Governor and Council on January 18, 2023, Item #51, as amended on August 27, 2025, Item #41, to extend the deadline for AOC to use these funds by one month.

Wherefore the MOU is amended as follows:

1. Remove paragraph 3 of the MOU and replace with the following:

AOC agrees that any part of \$6,315,978 that is not obligated by December 31, 2024 and expended by October 31, 2026 will lapse and return to the GOFERR SFRF fund.

Additionally, AOC understands that SFRF funds must be obligated by December 31, 2024. AOC agrees to meet with GOFERR on or before September 30, 2024 to assess the amount of funding used to date, the amount of funding remaining, and the anticipated expenses between September 30, 2024 and the closing date of this MOU of October 31, 2026. GOFERR reserves the right to require that funds anticipated to be unused be returned to GOFERR within 30 days of this meeting to allow for GOFERR to reallocate the funds before the December 31, 2024 deadline.

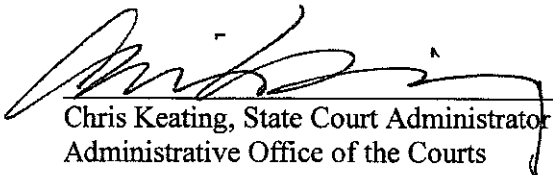
2. All other provisions of the MOU executed by the parties and signed by Governor and Council on January 18, 2023 and amended on August 27, 2025 shall remain in full force and effect.

Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery

Thomas Broderick

Date: August 14, 2026

NH Judicial Branch


Chris Keating, State Court Administrator
Administrative Office of the Courts

Date: 8/13/2026

Approved as to form substance and execution NH Department of Justice:

Christen Lavers

Date: 8/23/26

Signature

Print Name: Christen Lavers

Title: Sr. Assistant Attorney General

Approved by New Hampshire Governor and Council

Date: _____