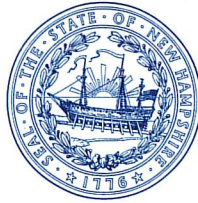


**ATTORNEY GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

86 - 9/16/26

1 GRANITE PLACE SOUTH
CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03301

JOHN M. FORMELLA
ATTORNEY GENERAL



JAMES T. BOFFETTI
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

August 27, 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 ACTION

That approval be and hereby is given to the Attorney General to appoint Benjamin C. Richardson to Position #9U359 (Appropriation #02-20-20-200510-26200000-013-500132) as an Attorney, at a salary level of \$85,000, effective upon Governor and Executive Council approval, or October 1, 2026, whichever is later. 100% General Funds.

EXPLANATION

Mr. Richardson, a resident of Ann Arbor, Michigan, plans on relocating to New Hampshire. Mr. Richardson graduated from Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota, *summa cum laude*, in 2021 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Mathematics. He earned his Juris Doctor, *cum laude*, from Harvard Law School in 2024. While in law school, he was Managing Editor of the *Harvard Journal of Law & Public Policy*. He also utilized his summers during law school working as a summer intern at the Solicitor General's Office at the Attorney General of Missouri in St. Louis (2022), where he wrote research memoranda for staff appellate attorneys and drafted portions of briefs, and at the Office of the Shelby County Public Defender in Memphis, Tennessee (2023), where he worked primarily with 2nd degree murder and child rape cases. He began his legal career as a law clerk for the Hon. Howard C. Nielson, Jr. at the United States District Court for the District of Utah in Salt Lake City, where he assisted in sentencing preparation, reviewed staff attorneys' work, wrote bench memos on criminal and civil matters, and drafted orders, oral rulings, and written opinions. Since August 2025, he has been a law clerk for the Hon. Joan L. Larsen at the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit in Ann Arbor. Considering Mr. Richardson's experience, I am requesting that he be appointed as an Attorney with a salary of \$85,000. He will be assigned to the Civil Bureau. A copy of his resume is attached.

Her Excellency, Governor Kelly A. Ayotte
and the Honorable Council
August 27, 2026
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RSA 21-M:3 and RSA 94:1-a(I)(c) provide that the 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 Mr. Richardson's appointment as an Attorney at the above-referenced salary for your approval and respectfully urge your favorable consideration. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Formella', written in a cursive style.

John M. Formella
Attorney General

#57032496

BENJAMIN RICHARDSON

EDUCATION

Harvard Law School

Juris Doctorate, cum laude

Cambridge, MA

May 2024

GPA: 6 Dean's Scholars, 15 Honors, 7 Passes

Semi-Finalist, Ames Moot Court

Dean's Scholar: Crim. Law, Crim. Procedure, Administrative Law, First Amendment,
Originalism & Its Discontents, The Role of the Art. III Judge (Griffith, J.)

Harvard Journal of Law & Public Policy, Managing Editor (*Per Curiam*)

Federalist Society, member, various administrative roles

Space Law Society, Treasurer

Law Students for Life, Vice President of Speakers

Carleton College

B.A. in Mathematics, summa cum laude

Northfield, MN

June 2021

GPA: 3.97/4.00

Mock Trial, member; Ethics Bowl, team captain; Bowling Club, president

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit

Law Clerk for the Hon. Joan L. Larsen

Ann Arbor, MI

Aug. 18, 2025–Present

Reviews staff attorneys' work, writes bench memos for the chambers and for circulation, and drafts opinions in pending matters.

United States District Court for the District of Utah

Law Clerk for the Hon. Howard C. Nielson, Jr.

Salt Lake City, UT

Aug. 19, 2024–Aug. 1, 2025

Assisted in sentencing preparation, reviewed staff attorneys' work, wrote bench memos on criminal and civil matters, drafted docket text orders, oral rulings, and written opinions, and handled clerk hiring.

Office of the Shelby County Public Defender

Summer Intern

Memphis, TN

May 22–July 28, 2023

Was in courtroom from opening to noon each morning, assisting with sentencing, case reports, and plea negotiations; researched issues in pending trial and appellate cases, interviewed defendants and witnesses during afternoons. Worked primarily with 2nd degree murder and child rape cases.

Solicitor General's Office, Attorney General of Missouri

Summer Intern

St. Louis, MO

June 6–July 29, 2022

Wrote research memoranda for a staff of appellate attorneys, drafted portions of briefs, observed court proceedings, and participated in office moots.

LICENSURES, SKILLS

Massachusetts Bar

Bar No. 716916

Emergency Medical Technician

2017–2022

Previously nationally certified and licensed in MA, MN.

Personal interests: beekeeping, bluegrass mandolin, cycling, bowling, minigolf

REFERENCES

Joan L. Larsen

+1 (734) 887-4710

Joan_Larsen@ca6.uscourts.gov

United States Circuit Judge

Howard C. Nielson, Jr.

+1 (801) 524-6730

Howard_Nielson@utd.uscourts.gov

United States District Judge

Stephen E. Sachs

+1 (617) 495-5009

ssachs@law.harvard.edu

Professor, Harvard Law School