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## DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

33 CAPITOL STREET CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03301-6397



JANE E. YOUNG DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

Ham, IC

September 6, 2019

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu and the Honorable Council State House Concord, New Hampshire 03301

GORDON J. MACDONALD

ATTORNEY GENERAL

Your Excellency and Members of the Council:

## **REQUESTED ACTION**

That approval be and hereby is given to the Attorney General to appoint David J. Mara, position #9U050 (Appropriation #02-20-200510-26100000-013-500132) as an Assistant Attorney General at a salary level of \$96,425 effective upon Governor and Executive Council approval or September 20, 2019, whichever is later. Mr. Mara will be occupying a position with a term ending August 31, 2021.

#### **EXPLANATION**

Mr. Mara received his law degree from New England School of Law in Boston, Massachusetts in 1994. Beginning in 1986, Mr. Mara had a long and distinguished career with the Manchester, New Hampshire Police Department, where he served in a number of positions. From 1986 to 1996, Mr. Mara served as a Police Officer for the Manchester Police Department. He was assigned as a prosecuting attorney at the Office of the City Solicitor in Manchester, New Hampshire from 1995 to 1996. From 1997 to 2003, Mr. Mara served as a prosecutor for the Manchester Police Department. From 2003 to 2008, Mr. Mara served as an Administrative Captain and the Supervisor of the Legal Division. In 2008, Mr. Mara was named the Chief of Police for the Manchester Police Department and held that position until 2015. From 2015 to 2017, Mr. Mara served as the Interim Chief of Police for the Portsmouth, New Hampshire Police Department. Currently, Mr. Mara serves as the Governor's Advisor on Addiction and Behavioral Health. In light of Mr. Mara's extensive experience, I am requesting he be appointed as an Assistant Attorney General at a salary of \$96,425. He will be assigned to the Criminal Bureau from where he will be deployed to oversee the day-to-day prosecutorial functions of the Hillsborough County Attorney's Office. A copy of his resume his attached. His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu and the Honorable Council September 6, 2019 Page 2 of 2

RSA 94:1-a(I)(c)(3) provides 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 Mr. Mara'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,

Gordon LMacDonald

Attorney General

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GOVERNOR'S ADVISOR ON ADDICTION AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH (2017-Present) Coordination and Planning New Hampshire's Response to the Opioid Crisis

INTERIM CHIEF OF POLICE PORTSMOUTH, NH (2016 -2017)

Oversight and Transformation of the Police Department while Rebuilding the Public's Trust in the Department

CHIEF OF POLICE, MANCHESTER, NH (Retired 2015)

Recognized Statewide For 30 Years of Demonstrated Excellence in Leadership Achievements

ORGANIZATIONAL MANAGEMENT | CRIME PREVENTION | COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Juris Doctor: Served as Prosecutor and Supervisor of Legal Division

## Credited with Creation of Community Advisory Board (CAB)

Comprised of Citizens of Diverse Ethnicity, Community Leaders, Social Service Agencies and Businesses. "We were having issues and protesting, and Chief Mara called us and invited us in to come in and talk. After that, he started the Community Advisory Board, and that's when I began to learn that every story has two sides, and we interpret the story according to which side we're seeing it from."

- Eva Castillo, New Hampshire Immigrant Project Organizer

### CRIME PREVENTION STRATEGIES | COMMUNITY OUTREACH INITIATIVES

State of NH Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) CO-Chairman (2009–Present)

Awarded for efforts in state national recognition for strides in reducing DMC (measure of racial disparity among juvenile offenders in the juvenile justice system.)— Leadership efforts contributed to NH's achievement as only state in nation to experience a consecutive two-year decrease of disproportionality for its largest minority group.

Adopted and coordinated *Effective Interaction with Youth* — Training to increase the capacity of patrol officers to communicate effectively with youth in community in ways that promote mutual respect and understanding. Initiative morphed to *Mirror Project* to train youth how to react in encounter with police to minimize harm for both youth and officers. Program is now offered in Manchester School System and Boys and Girls Clubs in Nashua.

"Chief Mara is the best in the country at what he does," There are 47 other coordinators in the country who would give their first born to have police chiefs like Chief Mara and (Chief Edwards, Co-Chairman)."

- Andrew Smith, DMC Coordinator, for NH

Launched the *Cops and Kids Program* in Manchester/Portsmouth Schools—Provides positive police experiences for young people. "If we can do this once a year for six years, from kindergarten to fifth grade, it will result in positive interactions between youth and police."—*Chief Mara* 

Arranged 2016 Portsmouth Community Forum, "Opiates: Our Kids, Our Community" — Presented a documentary created by FBI / DEA to raise awareness of epidemic of opioid / prescription drug abuse. "The law focuses on enforcement," Mara said. "But we also need to be involved in the other two aspects – education and treatment."

## PUBLIC SPEAKING FORUMS | MEDIA EVENTS | PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

Testified on numerous occasions in front of State Legislative Committees. Represented NH Chiefs of Police Association at public hearing (January 31, 2017) before Legislative Committee. Advocated for funding to increase efforts on behalf of Task Force for Crimes Against Children (CAC).

Hosted cable television show, MPD TV Ask the Chief-Effort to build relations with community and department.

Launched and host current PPDTV (monthly) television show and launched Portsmouth Radio 5-0, Bi-weekly—Initiative to improve communication with community and disseminate information.

Organized interactive public forum and delivered speech on MPD's goals to address challenges of *Race and Policing in A Diverse Community* at Manchester's PAL Center to audience of 120 citizens and police officers, 2015.

Partnered with Manchester Chamber of Commerce — Provided appropriate crime prevention training to businesses to address various current challenges.

## PROJECT MANAGEMENT | PROCESS IMPROVEMENT | ORGANIZATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Promoted directly from captain to chief (first in city's history). Reorganized department stating goal: "I wanted to improve community relations," he said. "That was the biggest thing I wanted to do. I wanted to reach out to people we didn't have relationships with, the underrepresented people in the city, and we were able to do that."

-Chief Mara

National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI) Law Enforcement Award 2013

#### Outstanding Contributions to Improving Lives of People Affected by Mental Illness and Emotional Disorders

Created Critical Incident Response Team (CIT) — Partnered with an established and effective team from Boston PD to assist with implementation. Coordinated appropriate training of officers to enhance ability to effectively respond to critical incidents involving persons affected by mental illness.

- Developed ongoing program of trained peer support and counseling focused on officers' wellness and resiliency in the aftermath of these events.
- Arranged nationally renowned expert on police stress to deliver mandated training to department.
- Lead effort to successfully pass legislation to ensure confidentiality of officers' communication and support.

Created separate community policing division with restructuring of divisions. Increased number of community police officers to enhance community outreach to all ethnic, religious, income and diverse population

New England Chiefs of Police Association Community Police Award 2012.

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Accomplished long time objective of building state of the art complex for MPD during economic downturn.

Instituted crime analysis technology to include predictive policing— usage of mathematical, predictive and analytical techniques in law enforcement to identify potential criminal activity.

Solicited and implemented comprehensive personnel tracking database— current and detailed method of compiling all relative information on officers' careers.

# DAVID J. MARA

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### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

#### KEY AREAS OF EXPERTISE

| Grant Participation              | Collective Bargaining            | Determine Equipment Needs       |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Human Resources                  | Crime Prevention Strategies      | Institute Performance Standards |
| Internal Affairs, Investigations | Annual/Long-Term Goals           | Maintain Fiscal Management      |
| Emergency Management             | Establish Operational Objectives | Records, Statistics Compliance  |
| Terrorist Incident Command       | Anticipate Personnel Levels      | Media relations                 |
| Budget Administration            | Project Capital Improvements     | Training and development        |

#### STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, CONCORD, NH

GOVERNOR'S ADVISOR ON ADDICTION AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH July 2017 - Present

• Serve as Governor's designee and public representative in the areas of Addiction and Behavioral Health.

- Coordinate and direct the relevant work of various state agencies that directly or indirectly are involved in or affect behavioral health and substance abuse prevention, early detection and intervention, treatment and recovery, public safety and law enforcement efforts.
- Lead the State's public awareness and education efforts to reduce stigma of mental illness and addiction.
- Identify barriers to and gaps in New Hampshire's system of care; recommend strategies to address those barriers and gaps.
- Attract and leverage resources from entities outside state government to enhance the accomplishment of the mission.

PORTSMOUTH POLICE DEPARTMENT, PORTSMOUTH, NH CHIEF OF POLICE, December 2015 – 2017

Interim Chief of Police to oversee department restructure making recommendations and adding appropriate personnel and implementing measures to achieve law enforcement accreditation, CALEA.

- Restructure the organization to improve allocation of personnel, workflow, accountability, and staff trust.
- Improve labor management relations and negotiated three expired collective bargaining agreements.
- Re-establish strategic planning.
- Initiate several community-oriented activities such as senior walks, Christmas light tour, Cops-n-Kids events at schools, hosted educations events on the opioid crisis, established Portsmouth Police Athletic Basketball League.
- Establish a monthly public television show, PPDTV, to become a more transparent agency to the public by introducing programs highlighting department personnel and the details of their jobs.
- Support a bi-weekly radio show that provides the public with another venue to learn about their police department, the staff, and also get helpful tips to protect themselves.

### MANCHESTER POLICE DEPARTMENT, MANCHESTER, NH 1986–2015 CHIEF OF POLICE 2008–2015 (Retired 2015)

Direct, plan, coordinate, and evaluate department operations. Oversee the enforcement of local/state/federal laws.

- Analyze crime data in order to efficiently utilize department resources.
- Create and maintain effective working relationships with local/state/federal law enforcement agencies/elected officials/outside agencies.
- Testify before local and state legislative bodies on issues that impact law enforcement and public safety.
- Collaborate with community members, groups and organizations to solve neighborhood problems and improve public safety.
- Coordinate community outreach through events, media and community involvement.

# DAVID J. MARA

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## ADMINISTRATIVE CAPTAIN, SUPERVISOR LEGAL DIVISION | PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS 2003-2008

Oversaw adult and juvenile prosecutions; provided guidance to departmental personnel concerning arrest and prosecution issues; provided training to departmental personnel pertaining to criminal procedure; drafted and implemented various standard operating procedures at the direction of chief of police; liaison officer between police department and law firms representing department in civil suits; oversaw proper investigation, registration, recording, and control of complaints which allege employee misconduct of criminal and non-criminal nature.

## PROSECUTOR: SERGEANT 1997-2001 | LIEUTENANT 2001-2003

Prosecuted criminal/juvenile cases in Manchester District Court; represented department in disciplinary hearings; conducted legal research; advised department on statutes/ordinances/ pending legislation; filed motions and memorandums of law; provided search and seizure training to new officers; liaison between department and Manchester District Court; prosecuted disciplinary hearings on behalf of department; planned, implemented and oversaw court overtime cutting programs; represented department at labor arbitration hearings.

## PATROL SERGEANT 1996-1997 | POLICE OFFICER 1986-1996

## OFFICE of the CITY SOLICITOR, MANCHESTER, NH PROSECUTING ATTORNEY 1995–1996

Represented State of New Hampshire in prosecuting misdemeanor and violation cases in Manchester District Court; prosecuted probable cause hearings for felony cases; participated in plea negotiations with defense attorneys; filed and argued motions; conducted legal research; filed legal memorandum; performed trial and witness preparation.

# PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

New Hampshire Bar Association New Hampshire Chiefs of Police Association (Executive Board Member 2008–2017) International Chiefs of Police Association New England Chiefs of Police Association

# PROFESSIONAL STATE | LOCAL COMMITTEES and GROUPS

Board of Directors of the Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce (2009 – 2015) Board of Directors of the Members First Credit Union (2008 – Present) Board of Directors of the Manchester Police Athletic League (2008 – Present) (Chairman 2015 – 2018) Board of Directors of the Manchester Mental Health Center of Greater Manchester (2013 – 2016) State of New Hampshire Disproportionate Minority Contact Committee (Co-Chairman) (2009 – 2017) State of New Hampshire Judicial Selection Commission (2013 – 2017) City of Manchester Task Force to End Homelessness (2008 – 2015) Southern New Hampshire HIDTA Advisory Board (2008 – 2015) City of Manchester Task Force on Immigrant and Refugee Integration (2010 – 2015) New Hampshire State Advisory Group on Juvenile Justice (2015 – 2017) New Hampshire United States Attorney's Project Safe Neighborhoods Task Force (2008 – Present) New Hampshire Recovery Friendly Workplace Advisory Board (Chairman) (2019 – Present) New Hampshire Opioid Overprescribing and Misuse Project Advisory Board (Chairman) (2019 – Present)

## EDUCATION

Juris Doctor, New England School of Law | Boston, MA

#### Bachelor of Science Degree, Criminal Justice, Northeastern University | Boston, MA

## AWARDS | COMMENDATIONS

2011 – *Community Appreciation Award* – for recognizing the diversity of the city population, reaching out and building trust and therefore improving the quality of life for all residents.

2012 – *Certificate of Appreciation* – from the Islamic Society of Greater Manchester for his outreach efforts to the New Hampshire Muslim community.

2013 – Plaque from the Iraqi Social Services – recognizing dedication and services to all Manchester residents.

2013 – National Alliance for Mental Illness NH Law Enforcement Award – recognizing outstanding contributions to improving the lives of people affected by mental illness and emotional disorders

2014 – NH Congressional Law Enforcement Award – recognizing his direct lead in the efforts for the passage and implementation of NH Senate Bill 166, which established a standard for department confidentiality and effective peer-to-peer support

2014 – *Certificate of Appreciation* – from the National Cultural Diversity Awareness Council, in recognition of outstanding leadership and promoting diversity.

2014 – State Advisory Group on Juvenile Justice Disproportionate Minority Contact Leadership Award – exemplary contributions in aiding the state in the advancement of statewide efforts to reduce disproportionate minority contact.

2015 – Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce – recognition of service to the Board of Directors 2009 – 2015.

2015 - Officer Michael Briggs Community Hero Award

2015 – Mental Health Center of Greater Manchester Community Leadership Award - in recognition of business or community leaders who exemplify the leadership and commitment needed to build and support a caring and healthy community

2015 – Manchester NAACP Service Award – in recognition of excellence in service to the Manchester Community.

2015 – *NH Police Standards & Training Council Commendation* – For commitment to training, safety, security, and to the PSTC.

2017 – *Portsmouth Police Department Community Policing Award* – Inaugural award presented by the Portsmouth Police Commission for initiating numerous community policing programs during his eighteen months as chief.