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Press Release

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Governor Hassan to Nominate One Judge to Superior Court, Three to Circuit Court

CONCORD – As part of her efforts to ensure that New Hampshire's judicial system is fair, just and effective, Governor Maggie Hassan announced that at Wednesday's Governor and Council meeting, she will nominate one judge to serve on the Superior Court and three to serve on the Circuit Court.

Governor Hassan will nominate Amy Messer of Hopkinton to serve on the Superior Court, and she will also nominate Edward Tenney of Sunapee, Charles Greenhalgh of Albany and Henrietta Luneau of Hopkinton to serve on the Circuit Court. Each of the nominees were recommended by the Governor's Judicial Selection Commission, a bipartisan panel created by Governor Hassan to broadly seek judicial candidates, evaluate all potential applicants and recommend qualified applicants to the Governor based on experience, good character and judicial temperament.

"Highly capable judges with the utmost experience, character and integrity are critical to an effective, fair and just judicial system, which is essential to a vibrant and strong democracy," Governor Hassan said.

"These nominees have extensive experience across the state in private practice, as public servants and as judges, where they have demonstrated an unyielding commitment to justice, as well as the temperament and character needed to be an effective judge. I thank each of them for their commitment to serving the people of New Hampshire."

Amy Messer is currently the Executive Director of the Disability Rights Center and has also served as the center's Legal Director, Senior Staff Attorney and Staff Attorney, representing individuals who experience disabilities throughout the state and federal court systems. She has also worked for the New Hampshire Public Defender, including time as Assistant Director, and has vast experience with individual representation as well as managing complex litigation. Messer received her undergraduate degree from the University of Vermont and her law degree from the Northeastern University School of Law.

Edward Tenney is currently the Presiding Justice for the 6th Circuit Court of New Hampshire in Hillsborough and an Associate Justice for the 2nd Circuit Court of New Hampshire in Lebanon on a full-time per diem basis. He has extensive experience in family law, including as a sole practitioner for nearly two decades and as a Guardian ad Litem. He has also served as a Special Justice for the Newport District Court and as a per diem judge in the Manchester Family Division. Tenney received his undergraduate degree from the University of New Hampshire and his law degree from the University of New Hampshire School of Law.

Currently an attorney and director at Cooper Cargill Chant, Charles Greenhalgh has extensive experience in family law, as well as landlord and tenant law, bankruptcy law, employment law and civil litigation. He has also worked at Winer and Bennett and Dreher, Greenhalgh and Sturm. Greenhalgh received his undergraduate degree at the University of Maine and his law degree from the Northeastern University School of Law.

Henrietta Luneau is currently a Marital Master for New Hampshire's 10th Circuit Court Brentwood Family Division in Kingston. She has also been an attorney at two private practices, Janet DeVito P.C. and David Burns PLLC, including significant experience as a Guardian ad Litem. Luneau received her undergraduate degree from Wellesley College and her law degree from the University of New Hampshire School of Law. She has also received a graduate degree in taxation from the Boston University School of Law and completed coursework at the National Judicial College at the University of Nevada.

All four nominations are subject to Executive Council approval and will be formally submitted at Wednesday's Governor and Council meeting.

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