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## Press Release



### For Immediate Release

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### **Governor Hassan to Nominate Michael York as Acting Commissioner of Department of Cultural Resources, Colonel Robert Quinn as Assistant Commissioner of Department of Safety**

CONCORD – In the wake of Commissioner McLeod's passing, and as part of her efforts to maintain New Hampshire's status as one of the safest states in the nation, Governor Maggie Hassan today announced that at tomorrow's Governor and Council meeting, she will nominate Michael York as Acting Commissioner of the Department of Cultural Resources and Colonel Robert Quinn as the Assistant Commissioner of the Department of Safety.

"We continue to mourn the loss of our dear friend and dedicated public servant, Commissioner McLeod, whose lifelong commitment to the arts community in New Hampshire made our state a stronger, more vibrant and more welcoming place," Governor Hassan said. "As a steadfast champion for the arts and culture in the Granite State, Commissioner McLeod left big shoes to fill.

"Given Michael York's decades of experience as the New Hampshire State Librarian and as a dedicated employee of the Department of Cultural Resources, I am confident that he will continue to demonstrate an unyielding commitment to the preservation and promotion of our cultural and historic resources as Acting Commissioner of the Department of Cultural Resources. I thank Michael for stepping up during this difficult time to carry on the legacy of Commissioner McLeod and to serve his fellow citizens and state."

Michael York has served as the New Hampshire State Librarian since 1999, where he has been responsible for the strategic planning, budgeting and personnel development of the entire library. York previously served as the University Librarian at the University of New Hampshire and as the Library Director at Colby Sawyer College. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of New Hampshire and holds a Master's Degree from Louisiana State University and an MBA from Plymouth State University.

"Colonel Quinn has nearly 20 years of experience in the New Hampshire State Police and has demonstrated exceptional leadership as the Director of the New Hampshire State Police over the last six years," Governor Hassan said. "His experience in the Narcotics Investigations Unit and in different leadership positions has prepared him for the public safety challenges we face, including the heroin and opioid epidemic that continues to devastate families, communities and businesses throughout the Granite State. Colonel Quinn has spent his entire career courageously sacrificing to protect his fellow citizens and his entire state, and I know that he will continue working to maintain New Hampshire's status as one of the safest states in the country as the Assistant Commissioner of the Department of Safety."

Colonel Quinn began his career as a Sergeant in the Narcotics Investigations Unit in the New Hampshire State Police and worked his way through the ranks, having served as Assistant Unit Commander, Lieutenant, Captain and in his most recent role as Director. Throughout his tenure with the New Hampshire State Police, Colonel Quinn has worked closely with the Department of Safety and the entire law enforcement community to maintain and protect the safety of communities throughout New Hampshire. Colonel Quinn's achievements have been recognized through various awards, including the Outstanding Leadership award from the National Cultural Diversity Awareness Council, the New Hampshire Law Enforcement Congressional Award, which he received twice, and the New England Narcotics Officers Francis A. Grondin Memorial Award. Colonel Quinn received his undergraduate degree at Merrimack College and graduated from the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Drug Unit Commanders Academy.

Both nominations are subject to Executive Council approval and will be formally submitted by Governor Hassan at tomorrow's Governor and Executive Council meeting in Nashua. The Governor will ask for the consideration of

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nomination and confirmation for Michael York as Acting Commissioner of the Department of Cultural Resources.

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