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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **EXECUTIVE COUNCIL CONFIRMS HARPER AS DIRECTOR OF STATE HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

CONCORD, N.H. – Today, the Executive Council confirmed the appointment of Jennifer Harper of Laconia, New Hampshire, as the Director of New Hampshire Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM).

“Jennifer has dedicated her career to the protection and well-being of others, and with more than 27 years’ experience in emergency management, is well-qualified to serve in this new role,” Governor Chris Sununu said. “I am confident that with Jennifer at the helm of HSEM, New Hampshire citizens will be well served.”

“Jenn has proven her leadership ability and tireless work ethic time and time again while serving alongside our local, state and federal partners during disaster relief and response efforts,” Department of Safety Commissioner Robert Quinn said. “I have no doubt she will continue to ensure the safety of New Hampshire’s residents and visitors and I thank the Executive Council for its decision.”

Director Harper has more than 30 years of experience in state government with more than 27 years in emergency management. Since 2014, she has served as the Assistant Director of HSEM and previously served as the HSEM Chief of Operations and the State’s Liaison with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

“It is truly an honor and privilege to be the first female director of New Hampshire Homeland Security and Emergency Management,” Harper said. “I stand ready with the dedicated team at HSEM to work collaboratively with our local, state and federal partners to further the State’s prevention, preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation efforts. Together, we all play an important role in the safety and security of New Hampshire’s citizens and visitors. I thank Governor Sununu, the Executive Council and Commissioner Quinn for entrusting me with this honor.”

Director Harper holds a master’s degree in security studies from the Naval Postgraduate School and a master’s degree in business administration from Southern New Hampshire University.

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