December 1, 2020

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
State House
107 North Main Street
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Governor Sununu:

Please accept this letter as the Judicial Council’s monthly report on the progress of the directives required pursuant to Executive Order 2020-19.

The Public Defender completed program-wide training on implicit bias in September of this year. In addition to this training, the New Hampshire Public Defender will continue to address diversity and inclusion issues through facilitated staff discussions. Staff that have completed the facilitator training will lead small discussion groups designed to engage all employees on these issues. Various options for racial profiling training are still under consideration.

The Judicial Council has partnered with the Warren B. Rudman Center at UNH Law on a training series focused on critical issues in juvenile and family law cases. The November 20, 2020 presentation entitled Race, Poverty and Juvenile Court: The Cradle to Prison Pipeline brought the issues of bias and overrepresentation to additional stakeholders in the juvenile and child protection arenas. We are also planning an implicit bias training in early 2021.

This agency will remain at your service to provide any requested information concerning the critical importance of these trainings.

Sincerely,

Sarah T. Blodgett
Executive Director