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Governor



KARYN POLITO
Lt. Governor

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Governor Baker Nominates Thomasina Johnson to the Juvenile Court and Re-Appoints Tonomey Coleman to the Parole Board

BOSTON— Today, Governor Charlie Baker nominated Thomasina Y. Johnson to the Suffolk County Juvenile Court and re-appointed Tonomey Coleman to the Parole Board. Johnson has over twenty years of experience working in the Juvenile Court. Coleman was first appointed to the Parole Board in March of 2013.

“Thomasina Johnson’s many years serving the children and families of our Commonwealth make her an excellent candidate for the Juvenile Court. Tonomey Coleman’s career in the public and private sector and his hard work on the Parole Board for the past four years will be a great benefit to the residents of Massachusetts,” **said Governor Baker**. “I am pleased to submit both their names for the Governor’s Council’s advice and consent.”

“Attorneys Johnson and Coleman possess the skills and dedication to continue to serve the people of the Commonwealth with wisdom and fairness,” **said Lt. Governor Karyn Polito**. “If confirmed, I am confident that they will both be excellent in their respective positions.”

The Juvenile Court Department is a statewide court with jurisdiction over civil and criminal matters including delinquencies, youthful offender cases, care and protections and children requiring assistance cases. The Juvenile Court has 41 judges, including the Chief Justice, in over 40 locations.

For more information about the Juvenile Court, please visit:

<http://www.mass.gov/courts/court-info/trial-court/juv/>

The Massachusetts Parole Board resides within the Executive Office of Public Safety and is authorized to grant paroles and supervise parolees. The seven members of the Parole Board are appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Governor's Council. Members are appointed for five year terms or to fill the unexpired term of a prior member. Board members serve on a full time basis. The Governor designates one member of the Board as the Chairman, who acts as the executive and administrative head of the Board.

For more information about the Parole Board, please visit:

<https://www.mass.gov/orgs/massachusetts-parole-board>

Judicial nominations are subject to the advice and consent of the Governor's Council. Applicants for judicial openings are reviewed by the Judicial Nominating Commission (JNC) and recommended to the governor. Governor Baker established the JNC in February, 2015 pursuant to Executive Order 558, a non-partisan, non-political Commission composed of volunteers from a cross-section of the Commonwealth's diverse population to screen judicial applications. Twenty-one members were later appointed to the JNC in April, 2015.

About Thomasina Johnson

Thomasina Johnson currently serves as Assistant Clerk Magistrate at the Plymouth County Juvenile Court, Brockton Division where among her duties, she determines probable cause for issuance of criminal complaints, conducts magistrate hearings regarding criminal complaints, makes in court bail determinations and conducts arraignments. She began her career as a general practitioner in Boston. After that, from 1994 to 2016, she served as Assistant Regional Counsel for the Department of Children and Families in Boston and Brockton. As a trial attorney for the Department of Children and Families she litigated care and protection, guardianship and adoption cases. Attorney Johnson graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and earned her Juris Doctorate from Suffolk University Law School. She resides in Rockland with her family.

About Tonomey Coleman

Tonomey Coleman currently serves as a member of the Massachusetts Parole Board where he has served since 2013. Prior to joining the Board, he ran a solo law practice focused primarily on criminal defense in both the state and federal courts of Massachusetts. He has extensive litigation and trial experience in criminal matters, as well as experience in civil legal matters. Mr. Coleman began his career serving as a law clerk in the Massachusetts Superior Court before being elevated to the position of

regional administrative law clerk. Thereafter, he worked as an associate attorney for the law firm Fitzhugh & Associates, and went on to establish a general practice partnership, Cartwright & Coleman. Mr. Coleman graduated with a Bachelor of Business Administration from Bernard M. Baruch College in New York, and earned his Juris Doctorate from Boston College Law School. He resides in Boston.

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