

CHARLIE BAKER
GOVERNOR



KARYN POLITO
LT. GOVERNOR

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CONTACT

Elizabeth Guyton, Governor's Office
elizabeth.guyton@state.ma.us



Governor Baker Nominates Michele Ouimet-Rooke to Springfield District Court

BOSTON – Governor Charlie Baker has nominated Michele Ouimet-Rooke, an attorney with over 17 years of experience in Western Massachusetts courts to serve as a judge in the Springfield District Court.

“Michele Ouimet-Rooke offers the court a great combination of experience in both civil and criminal legal matters drawn from her career in public service and private practice in Western Massachusetts,” **said Governor Baker**. “I am pleased to recommend an individual with such broad experience to the Governor’s Council for their consideration.”

“The first two District Court openings our administration has sought to fill are in Hampden County, and we are pleased to make this second nomination to the Springfield District Court,” **said Lt. Governor Karyn Polito**. “If confirmed we know that Ms. Ouimet-Rooke will serve her hometown with distinction.”

Applicants for judicial openings are reviewed by the Statewide Judicial Nominating Commission and recommended to the Governor. All judicial nominations are subject to the advice and consent of the Governor’s Council.

There are 62 District Courts throughout the Commonwealth hearing a range of criminal, civil, housing, juvenile, mental health and other case types, including all felonies punishable by a sentence up to five years, misdemeanors and violations of city and town ordinances and by-laws. Springfield is located in the Region 6, which

includes courts in Chicopee, Eastern Hampshire, Greenfield, Holyoke, Northern Berkshire, Northampton, Orange, Palmer, Southern Berkshire, and Westfield.

For more information about the District Court, visit <http://www.mass.gov/courts/court-info/trial-court/dc/>.

About Michele Ouimet-Rooke:

Michele Ouimet-Rooke, a native and resident of Springfield, MA, joined the practice of Doherty, Wallace, Pillsbury and Murphy in 2002 as an Associate representing plaintiffs and defendants in a variety of litigations, including employment and discrimination law, premise and product liability, insurance defense, landlord/tenant issues, criminal defense and business litigation, becoming a partner in 2012. Ouimet-Rooke began her career in the Hampden County District Attorney's Office as a Victim/Witness Advocate for eight years before becoming an Assistant District Attorney and Chief Prosecutor. She obtained a Bachelor of Science and Master in Education from Springfield College and Juris Doctor from Western New England College School of Law in 1999.

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