

**DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
REPORT OF INVESTIGATION**

Matter #	Case Name	Investigator	Report Date
2025180174	Review of Dianne Martin's Employment in Judicial Branch	Richard C. Tracy	November 20, 2025

On or about October 28, 2025, Deputy Attorney General James T. Boffetti, advised me that I would be assisting him and General Counsel Chris Bond, with a review of an employment personnel matter involving the former New Hampshire Judicial Branch Director of Administration and current General Counsel of the Bar of Admissions, Dianne Martin.

On October 30, 2025, Deputy AG Boffetti, informed me that we were scheduled to meet with the Director and Human Resource Manager with the Division of Personnel (DOP) at the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) the following morning, October 31, 2025, at their current office located at 54 Regional Drive, Concord.

Matthew Mavrogeorge, Director
Division of Personnel
(603) 271-2824

Joanne Lydick, Human Resource Manager
Division of Personnel
(603) 271-4100

October 31, 2025, at 9AM, Deputy Attorney General James Boffetti, Associate Attorney General Chris Bond and I met with Director Matthew Mavrogeorge and Human Resource Manager Joanne Lydick at the DOP's current office.

Dep. AG Boffetti read aloud the October 30, 2025, statement released by the Supreme Court regarding the personnel move involving Dianne Martin that NHPR reporter Todd Bookman wrote about in his October 23, 2025, article titled "In midst of budget crisis, an unusual move helped ally of NH Chief Justice collect \$50K". After hearing the statement read out loud by Dep AG Boffetti, Director Mavrogeorge expressed concern with that statement indicating that goes against his understanding of the situation. Specifically, he stated that DOP did not verify the amount of accrued leave to which Dianne Martin was entitled.

Director Mavrogeorge explained that in March of 2024, after the NH Judicial Branch (NHJB) lost many of its Human Resource Staff, the NHJB entered a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to provide human resource support to NHJB. Director Mavrogeorge provided us with a copy of the MOU and cover letter dated March 20, 2024, which states, in part, that "DAS Division of Personnel (DOP) to provide certain human resource management (HR) support to NHJB..." The effective date of the MOU was retroactive to March 11, 2024, and ran through to June 30, 2025.

HR Manager Joanne Lydick and her staff assisted NHJB with certain HR related matters. Director Mavrogeorge and Manager Lydick pointed out that NHJB never gave DOP full access

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to all HR related matters and files. Both acknowledge that NHJB HR department has experienced a high rate of turn over the past few years.

Manager Lydick and her staff worked closely with Rebecca Plourde at NHJB on payroll related matters. Manager Lydick stated that NHJB uses "Bureau of Accounts" (BOA) for payroll, and a program called "ASAP" for tracking annual and sick leave and not "NH First" like most other state agencies. NHJB does use NH First on a limited basis and is starting to use NH First more.

Mavrogeorge & Lydick indicated that NHJB kept the Dianne Martin issue in house and initially did not work with DAS or DOP. Mavrogeorge and Lydick stated that Carolyn Bond with BOA did the math on what Martin would receive as part of her layoff package based on leave balances provided by NHJB. Mavrogeorge and Lydick agreed that DOP had nothing to do with the "back story" of what led to Martin's transfer from one position into another position at NHJB. Mavrogeorge and Lydick stated that they were led to believe that NHJB created a new position for Martin at the Board of Bar Overseers.

Mavrogeorge and Lydick heard that Martin had been on leave and working partially remote, which "Tracy" at NHJB was tracking. DOP believed that at some point Martin returned from leave and continued to work remotely. Mavrogeorge and Lydick reminded us of that NHJB kept the DOP HR Support Unit out of the loop regarding the handling of Martins removal as Director at NHJB and the creation of the new position for Martin. Mavrogeorge and Lydick, stated that DOP HRSU was not consulted about whether Martin's new position was duplicative or not of another position within NHJB, NHJB handled that and did not consult DOP . Eventually DOP assisted NHJB with finalizing the position for Martin.

Mavrogeorge, acknowledged that he had conversations and exchanged emails with NHJB former HR director Suzanne Gelinas over the Martin issue. Mavrogeorge stated that Gelinas was concerned with how NHJB was handling the process of removing Martin from one position and moving her into another position within NHJB.

We discussed Mavrogeorge' s notes that he took during his [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] Mavrogeorge' s notes indicate that [REDACTED] told Mavrogeorge that Martin was on paid leave pending an investigation, that [REDACTED] told Mavrogeorge that the "Chief" is Chief Justice McDonald, and that according to [REDACTED] Chief Justice McDonald met with Judge Keating the week prior and that the "Chief wants to lay her off (Martin) a week & then rehire her into a new role in the NH Bar Assoc."

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Mavrogeorge's notes indicate that [REDACTED] told Mavrogeorge that Judge Keating reportedly "went to [REDACTED] & asked [REDACTED] to help him figure this out." [REDACTED] reportedly told Mavrogeorge that Judge Keating and Erin Creegan, the former NHJB General Counsel, were aware of this plan.

[REDACTED] told Mavrogeorge that Justice Donovan met with NHJB staff to advise them that "Diane Martin no longer works for the judicial branch."

[REDACTED] reportedly told Judge Keating that "she doesn't understand why the Chief wants to classify this as a layoff."

According to [REDACTED] Martin reportedly spoke with Creegan about the "21 day layoff & reinstatement rule" and that Martin believes that "Judge Keating being put in her position is triggering a layoff & they have 21 days to do it."

[REDACTED] told Mavrogeorge that the Chief told Judge Keating to have [REDACTED] put Diane and another employee on paid leaving pending an investigation, and that "putting Diane into another position is Chief's idea." Mavrogeorge understood that to mean it was Chief Justice McDonald's idea.

[REDACTED] told Mavrogeorge that "Erin (Creegan) told [REDACTED] that Diane needs health insur. [REDACTED] Diane won't accept transfer because she wants the layoff payout \$."

After speaking with [REDACTED] Mavrogeorge discussed [REDACTED] concerns with his immediate supervisor, Lori Rudis and they looped in with the Commissioner of Administrative Services, Charlie Arlinghaus. Mavrogeorge stated that he never heard back from Commissioner Arlinghaus.

Mavrogeorge stated that Lori Rudis had multiple conversations with Judge Keating who seemed troubled by the plan to lay off Dianne Martin and rehire her into another position within the judicial branch.

Mavrogeorge stated that he received an email from [REDACTED] expressing her concern about how the Dianne Martin positions were being handled and that [REDACTED] didn't feel she could work at the NHJB any further. Mavrogeorge informed [REDACTED] of the steps he took on his end and who he notified but did not have any additional information to offer [REDACTED]

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DOJ requested and received email correspondence, payroll records and other documents related to this review from DOP.