



**TO:** The Honorable the Members of the Board of Regents

**FROM:** Betty A. Rosa, Chancellor

**SUBJECT:** Appointment of Counsel & Deputy Commissioner  
for Legal Affairs

**DATE:** December 9, 2019

**AUTHORIZATIONS:**

**Issue for Decision**

Will the Board of Regents approve my appointment of Shannon Tahoe to the position of Counsel & Deputy Commissioner for Legal Affairs?

**Reason for Consideration**

Ms. Tahoe will bring to the Counsel & Deputy Commissioner for Legal Affairs position nearly 13 years of service in various positions in the Department. She is currently serving as Acting Commissioner of Education and President of the University of the State of New York and Acting Counsel and Deputy Commissioner for Legal Affairs; and for several years as Deputy Counsel and Assistant Counsel for Legislation. Ms. Tahoe has consistently provided sound legal advice and counsel to the Board of Regents, Commissioner and Department staff on critical policy matters and key initiatives. She is intimately familiar with all aspects of the work of the Department, having managed the day-to-day operations of the Office of Counsel as Deputy Counsel and now Acting Counsel. During her tenure, Ms. Tahoe has also assisted with the successful management of a broad array of critical Departmental functions and responsibilities, including those of the Department's Office of Management Services, Office of the Professions, Office of Adult Career and Continuing Education Services, Office of Cultural Education, Office of Performance and Improvement and Management Services, Office of the Chief Financial Officer, and the Department's Chief Privacy Officer, as well as the Offices of Communications, Human Resources, Education Finance, and Governmental Relations. Ms. Tahoe holds a Juris Doctorate degree from Syracuse University and Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Rochester.

**Proposed Handling**

This recommendation will come before the full Board of Regents at its Executive Session for discussion December 9, 2019 Regents meeting and then come before the full Board for final action December 9, 2019.

**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Board of Regents approve the appointment of Shannon Tahoe to the position of Counsel & Deputy Commissioner for Legal Affairs.

**Timetable for Implementation**

If the Board of Regents approves the recommendation, the appointment will be effective and she will start in the position December 9, 2019.

VOTED, that the Board of Regents approve the appointment of Shannon Tahoe to Counsel & Deputy Commissioner for Legal Affairs effective December 9, 2019.