



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE APPEALS COURT
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02108

PHILLIP RAPOZA
CHIEF JUSTICE

February 12, 2015

His Excellency Charles D. Baker
Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
State House, Room 272
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Governor Baker,

I am writing to inform you that I will be stepping down from the Appeals Court on June 30, 2015, after celebrating my 65th birthday earlier that month. Thereafter I will be focusing my attention on activities in the field of international justice.

It has been a great honor and a distinct privilege to serve as a member of the Massachusetts judiciary for the last twenty-three years. As a judge on both the Trial Court and the Appeals Court, I have had the humbling opportunity to affect the lives of those who come before our courts seeking justice. I have valued every day of my judicial career.

My almost nine years as Chief Justice of the Appeals Court have been especially rewarding and I am profoundly grateful to have had the opportunity to work side by side with our dedicated justices and staff.

I am notifying you of my plans at this early date to provide you sufficient time to nominate my successor and to ensure a seamless transition. Needless to say, I will make myself available to our next chief justice and provide whatever assistance he or she may require in preparing to assume office. In the meantime, if I can be of any assistance to you with respect to this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Phillip Rapoza".

Phillip Rapoza

cc: Chief Justice Ralph D. Gants