



Paul R. LePage
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
1 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0001

RECEIVED
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ATTORNEY GENERAL

July 10, 2017

The Honorable Janet T. Mills
6 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Attorney General Mills,

I am writing in order to formally request outside counsel in order to file an amicus brief in the case of *State of Maine v. Perry*. This case concerns a pardon that I issued that referenced a dog that had been ordered euthanized. The dog was ordered to be euthanized without the knowledge of the dog's current owner. A decision of the District Court is now being appealed to the Law Court.

As you know, the ancient power of Executive Clemency is very broad and is a power that the People of the State of Maine have vested in the Chief Executive. With this in mind, I strongly believe it is my constitutional duty and obligation to defend this important power in court.

Members of my staff have been in touch with Catherine Connors, Esq. of Pierce Atwood about writing and filing an amicus brief on my behalf in the case of *State of Maine v. Perry*. I have come to understand that the representation that Attorney Connors and perhaps other associates would be provided at no cost to the State of Maine. Further, as you are aware, Pierce Atwood is a very well-respected firm that carries all relevant insurance.

For the reasons I have just laid out, I request your written permission to retain the firm of Pierce Atwood for the purpose of writing and filing an amicus brief in the case of *State of Maine v. Perry*. I request that you provide this permission to me as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Paul R. LePage
Governor



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