

**ATTORNEY GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

33 CAPITOL STREET
CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03301-6397

GORDON J. MACDONALD
ATTORNEY GENERAL



JANE E. YOUNG
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

September 15, 2020

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Your Excellency and Members of the Council:

REQUESTED ACTION

That approval be and hereby is given to the Attorney General to appoint Stephanie J. Johnson as an Assistant Attorney General to Position #9U583 (Appropriation #02-20-20-200510-2615-013-500132) at a salary level of \$77,000, effective upon Governor and Executive Council approval, for a term ending August 15, 2023.

EXPLANATION

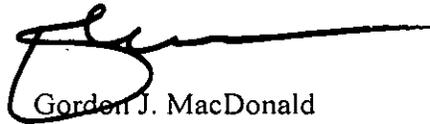
Ms. Johnson is a Lee resident and member of the New Hampshire Bar. She earned her undergraduate degree, *cum laude*, from the University of Connecticut in 2003, and her Juris Doctor from the William Mitchell College of Law, in St. Paul, Minnesota, in 2006. While studying law she was certified to practice as a student attorney in the Washington County Attorney's Office, Juvenile Division. Between 2007 and 2019, Ms. Johnson prosecuted criminal cases as an Assistant County Attorney in both the Rockingham and Hillsborough County Attorneys' Offices. She joined the New Hampshire Department of Justice in August 2019 and works in the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit. Her salary will increase by \$3,000, from \$74,000 to \$77,000. I plan to continue her current assignment. A copy of her resume is attached.

RSA 94:1-a(I)(c)(3) provides that designation of positions, salary levels, and salary increases for attorneys at the Department of Justice shall be determined by the Attorney General, subject to approval of the Governor and Council, within appropriations made to the Department of Justice.

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I am very pleased to offer Ms. Johnson's appointment as an Assistant Attorney General at the above-referenced salary for your approval and respectfully urge your favorable consideration. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gordon J. MacDonald', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Gordon J. MacDonald
Attorney General

#2844566

STEPHANIE J. JOHNSON, ESQ.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Department of Justice – Office of the Attorney General, Concord, NH
Medicaid Fraud Control Unit

August 2019 – Present

Attorney

Investigate and prosecute Medicaid Fraud and Patient Abuse cases throughout the State of New Hampshire.

- Review fraud referrals from the Department of Health and Human Services' Program Integrity Unit to determine whether further investigation is needed.
- Review patient abuse referrals from the Bureau of Elderly and Adult Services to determine whether further investigation is needed.
- Assist the Unit's investigators with developing investigative strategies, draft and review search warrant affidavits, subpoenas, and other investigative legal process.
- Represent the Unit in District and Superior Court proceedings from grand jury through post-conviction matters, including evidentiary hearings, plea and sentencing hearings, jury trials, and post-trial hearings.
- Attend quarterly case review meetings with the Department of Health and Human Services' Program Integrity Unit and the State's three Managed Care Organizations.

Rockingham County Attorney's Office, Brentwood, NH

October 2015 – Present

Assistant County Attorney III

Advocated on behalf of the State of New Hampshire in all phases of the criminal justice system.

- Supervised four attorneys and three legal assistants and served as point of contact for thirteen police departments.
- Represented the State of New Hampshire in Rockingham County Superior Court from grand jury through post-conviction matters, including evidentiary hearings, plea and sentencing hearings, and jury trials.
- Reviewed files referred to the Office for indictment, drafted indictments, and presented cases to the Grand Jury.
- Researched and drafted pleadings in various areas of criminal law and argued on behalf of the State at motions hearings.
- Prepared victims and witnesses to testify during depositions, evidentiary hearings, and jury trials. Explained court rulings and verdicts to victims and assisted them in delivering victim impact statements at sentencing hearings.
- Provided advice, assistance, and training to area police departments as necessary.
- Received 2017 Champion for Children Award from the Rockingham County Child Advocacy Center.

Hillsborough County Attorney's Office, Manchester, NH

June 2014 – October 2015

Assistant County Attorney

Advocated on behalf of the State of New Hampshire in all phases of the criminal justice system.

- Represented the State of New Hampshire in Hillsborough County Superior Court - North from grand jury through post-conviction matters including evidentiary hearings, plea and sentencing hearings, and jury trials.
- Represented the Office at Urban Violence Working Group Meetings.
- Prepared victims and witnesses to testify during depositions, evidentiary hearings, and jury trials.
- Reviewed files referred to the Office for indictment, drafted indictments, and presented cases to Grand Jury.
- Provided advice and assistance to area police departments as necessary.

Rockingham County Attorney's Office, Brentwood, NH

October 2007 – June 2014

Assistant County Attorney

June 2010 - June 2014

Advocated on behalf of the State of New Hampshire in all phases of the criminal justice system.

- Promoted to Assistant County Attorney II August 2013.
- Represented the State of New Hampshire in the Rockingham County Adult Drug Court and New Hope probation programs as well as other criminal matters pending before the Rockingham Superior Court, including evidentiary hearings and jury trials.
- Prepare victims and witnesses to testify during depositions, evidentiary hearings, and jury trials.
- Reviewed files referred to the Office for presentation to the grand jury, and researched and drafted pleadings in various areas of criminal law.
- Provided advice and assistance to area police departments as necessary.

Assistant County Attorney - Exeter/Fremont Prosecutor

October 2007 - June 2010

Advocated on behalf of the Exeter and Fremont Police Departments in the Exeter District Court.

- Represented the Town of Exeter and the Town of Fremont in criminal matters pending before the Exeter District Court, including evidentiary hearings and bench trials.
- Provided legal advice and training for law enforcement officers, particularly on changes in legislation and case law.
- Reviewed complaints, search warrants, and search warrant affidavits.

McGraw Law Firm, P.A., Oakdale, MN

January 2007 - July 2007

Contract Attorney

Worked directly with solo practitioner on a variety of legal matters in the areas of criminal law, family law, and personal injury.

- Represented clients in district courts at initial appearances on a variety of criminal matters, ranging from felonies to traffic violations and DWI.
- Drafted motions, supporting memoranda, proposed orders, and accompanying affidavits on behalf of family law clients.

Washington County Attorney's Office, Stillwater, MN

March 2005 - May 2006

Certified Student Attorney, Juvenile Division

Worked directly with Juvenile prosecutors on delinquency and child protection matters.

- Drafted three termination of parental rights and four juvenile delinquency appellate briefs dealing with such issues as relationship between methamphetamine use and custody, fifth degree criminal sexual conduct, possession of weapons on school grounds, and the constitutionality of obtaining pre-conviction DNA samples.
- Represented the State of Minnesota in juvenile court for petty to felony offenses three to four times per week in the traffic, disposition, and truancy calendars.
- Reviewed police reports and made charging recommendations to assistant county attorneys, researched and drafted memoranda on various legal issues for assistant county attorneys in preparation for motions and court hearings.

BAR ADMISSIONS

New Hampshire State Bar

June 2008 - present

United States District Court - District of New Hampshire

June 2008 - present

Minnesota State Bar

October 2006 - June 2010

EDUCATION

William Mitchell College of Law, St. Paul, MN

Juris Doctor May 2006

Honors: CALI Award of Excellence in Corporate and White Collar Crime - Fall 2005

National Tax Moot Court Competition - Fall 2005 - Spring 2006

Rosalie Wahl Moot Court Competition - Fall 2004 - Spring 2005

Recognized by the Minnesota Justice Foundation for completing at least 50 hours of law-related public service.

University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

Bachelor of Arts, *cum laude*, in Political Science - May 2003

Honors: Dean's List Spring 2002 - Spring 2003