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## ATTORNEY GENERALIN02'22 PM 2:54 RCVE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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33 CAPITOL STREET CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03301-6397

JOHN M. FORMELLA ATTORNEY GENERAL



JAMES T. BOFFETTI DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

June 1, 2022

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 Melissa E. Fales to Position #9U225 (Appropriation #02-20-200510-26130000-013-500132) as an Attorney at a salary level of \$85,000, effective upon Governor and Executive Council approval or July 1, 2022, whichever is later.

## **EXPLANATION**

Ms. Fales, a Newmarket resident, received a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Biology from Plymouth State University in 2008. She earned her Juris Doctor, with a Natural Resources and Environment Certificate, from the University of Montana School of Law in 2011. She was admitted to the New Hampshire Bar in 2011. Ms. Fales began her legal career as an Assistant Legal Counsel in the Hillsborough County Office of Legal Counsel in 2012. After approximately nine months in that post, she joined the Grafton County Attorney's Office as an Assistant County Attorney. She prosecuted primarily felony level criminal offenses for that office until she joined Rockingham County Attorney's Office in 2016. Ms. Fales was an Assistant County Attorney in Rockingham County until 2020, when she was promoted to Deputy County Attorney. In light of Ms. Fales' experience, I am requesting she be appointed as an Attorney at a salary of \$85,000. She will be assigned to the Environmental Protection Bureau. 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.

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu And the Honorable Council June 1, 2022 Page 2 of 2

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

Respectfully submitted,

John M. Formella Attorney General

#3532736

## Melissa E. Fales

#### Bar Membership

#### New Hampshire State and Federal Bar

Admitted

Concord, NH November 2011

Brentwood, NH

#### Experience

#### Rockingham County Attorney's Office

Deputy County Attorney January 2020 - present

Assistant County Attorney September 2016- January 2020

- Collaborate with police agencies regarding investigation, charging decisions, and interpreting New Hampshire law.
- Responsible for prosecuting felony cases including reviewing investigations, negotiating pleas, presenting charges to a grand jury, preparing for trial and, presenting cases at jury trial.
- Respond to right-to-know requests made to the office pursuant to RSA 91-A.
- Collaborate with the County Attorney to supervise office employees, develop policy, and make administrative decisions to best serve Rockingham County citizens.

#### Grafton County Attorney's Office

North Haverhill, NH

Assistant County Attorney September 2012 - September 2016

- Handled all stages of prosecution for primarily felony level criminal offenses.
- Reviewed investigations, drafted charging documents, presented cases to the grand jury, negotiated plea agreements, researched and drafted motions, and argued on the State's behalf at hearings and jury trials.

#### Hillsborough County Office of Legal Counsel

Assistant Legal Counsel January 2012 - September 2012

- Drafted and filed petitions for writs of attachment, motions for summary judgment, settlement agreements, and represented Hillsborough County at periodic payment hearings.
- Conducted legal research and drafted objections to writs of habeas corpus filed by inmates at the Hillsborough County Department of Corrections.

## New Hampshire Department of Justice Environmental Protection Bureau Concord, NH Summer Intern June 2010 – August 2010

- Researched and wrote memoranda, petitions, motions, and proposed orders for the Environmental Protection Bureau.
- Prepared for and attended arraignments, department meetings, inter-agency meetings, and hearings.
- Collaborated with AAGs in preparing for, and trying, a developer for wetlands and water quality violations impacting Concord's drinking water supply.

#### **Education**

#### University of Montana School of Law

• Juris Doctor

• Natural Resources and Environment Certificate

## Missoula, MT May 2011 May 2011

## Plymouth State University

Bachelor of Science in Environmental Biology

Study Abroad: Dublin City University

## Plymouth, NH May 2008

Dublin, IE Fall 2007

#### Community Involvement

- New Hampshire Bar Association Legislation Committee
- Newmarket Community Church, Volunteer

#### **Presentations**

- NH DOJ Sexual Assault Training Series Charging, Bail, and Motion Practice January 2022
- Granite State Children's Alliance Child Advocacy Center Annual Summit Testifying for Forensic Examiners April 2021 and April 2022
- NH DOJ Sexual Assault Training Series Direct Examination April 2022