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ATTORNEY GENERAL DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

33 CAPITOL STREET CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03301-6397

GORDON J. MACDONALD
ATTORNEY GENERAL



) JANE E. YOUNG DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

August 12, 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 Amanda Palmeira (Position No. 9U224, Appropriation No. 02-20-20-201010-2620-013-500132) as an Assistant Attorney General, at a salary level of \$65,000, effective upon Governor and Executive Council approval or September 11, 2020, whichever is later, for a term ending August 31, 2024.

EXPLANATION

Ms. Palmeira is a resident of Henniker and a member of the New Hampshire Bar. She earned her bachelor's degree, magna cum laude, from the University of Central Florida in 2013, and her Juris Doctor, cum laude, from New England Law | Boston in 2017. While studying law, she interned at the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Massachusetts in 2016 and worked as a research assistant at the law school from 2015 through 2017. In August 2017, she began a two-year clerkship with the New Hampshire Superior Court. Ms. Palmeira joined the Department of Justice on August 30, 2019 as the Debt Recovery Unit attorney. In view of Ms. Palmeira's experience and performance, I am requesting her current salary be increased by \$3,000 from \$62,000 to \$65,000. This pay raise will become effective on September 11, 2020. I will be assigning her as a litigation attorney in the Civil 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.

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I am very pleased to offer Ms. Palmeira for appointment at the above-referenced salary amount and respectfully urge your favorable consideration. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

Gordon J. MacDonald

Attorney General

Amanda Palmeira

NH Bar # 269464

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Attorney, New Hampshire Department of Justice - Office of the Attorney General - Concord, N.H. August 30, 2019-Present

- Worked as sole Debt Recovery Unit attorney to collect unpaid debts owed to State through litigation and negotiated settlements
- Counseled executive agencies on collections and debt-referral procedures in adherence with State statute
- Improved Debt Recovery Unit's case management and organization
- Collected more than \$333,000.00 on behalf of State
- Assisted with Office's client counseling efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic State of Emergency

Judicial Law Clerk to the Honorable David W. Ruoff, New Hampshire Superior Court - Keene, NH

2017-2019

- Worked as sole judicial law clerk for Cheshire County and Sullivan County Superior Courts
- Performed legal research, drafted orders, and advised several Superior Court judges on variety of legal issues in civil and criminal cases

Executive Online Editor, New England Law Review - Boston, Ma.

2016-2017

- Solicited and reviewed articles for the New England Law Review's online component, On Remand
- Ensured grammar, syntax, and uniform style in all publications from the New England Law Review and On Remand

Legal Intern, U.S Attorney's Office - Civil Division, District of Massachusetts - Boston, Ma.

August-December 2016

- Conducted research, wrote memoranda, and drafted motions for U.S. Attorney Anita Johnson on federal government liability and sovereign immunity
- Researched the Federal Torts Claims Act, the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Administrative Procedure Act, and FOIA

Research Assistant to Prof. Lawrence Friedman, New England Law | Boston - Boston, Ma.

2015-2017

- Researched and wrote explanations of constitutional law holdings in federal circuit and district courts
- Proofread and edited selections to assist with casebook drafting

Law Clerk, Law Office of Carmen L. Durso - Boston, Ma.

May-August 2016

- Assisted attorneys with cases in federal and Massachusetts court in representation of sexual abuse survivors
- Conducted research and wrote memoranda on law, including §1983, Title IX, and federal court procedure

Intern, New England First Amendment Coalition - Boston, Ma.

June-August 2015

- Researched First Amendment law and drafted memorandum for NEFAC executive director
- Attended public hearings at the Massachusetts State House and published blogs on open records legislation

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Marketing Intern, BakerHostetler, LLP - Orlando, Fla.

2013-2014

- Wrote and distributed press releases, and collaborated with attorneys on marketing materials including requests for proposals
- Administered LinkedIn and Twitter profiles of Business Development & Marketing Manager

EDUCATION

New England Law | Boston - Boston, Ma.

2017

3.66, 25 of 167 (Top 15%), Cum Laude, Dean's List (Fall 2014-Spring 2017), New England Law Review

Publication: Case Comment, "Orange is the New Participation: How Expansion of the Public Figure Doctrine in LaChance v.

Boston Herald Endangers Internet Users," 51 NEW ENG. L. REV. 518 (2017)

University of Central Florida - Orlando, Fla. - Bachelor of Arts in Journalism, minor in Political Science/Pre-Law

2013

3.87, Magna Cum Laude, Honors Diploma Distinction, Dean's List (2011-2013)

<u>Publication</u>: Honors in the Major Thesis, "Suing Their Way Into the Newsroom: How Women at The Detroit News Changed Journalism" (2012)

Seminole State College of Florida - Sanford, Fla. - Associate of Arts Degree

2011

4.0, Summa Cum Laude, Honors Diploma Distinction, President's List (2009-2011), Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society