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LAW

ATTORNEY GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

MAY 19 '20 AM 10:23 DAS

33 CAPITOL STREET
CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03301-6397

GORDON J. MACDONALD
ATTORNEY GENERAL



JANE E. YOUNG
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

May 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 nominate Heather Cherniske to serve on the New Hampshire Victims' Assistance Commission. Ms. Cherniske will be serving a 3-year term upon approval of the Governor and Executive Council through June 10, 2023.

EXPLANATION

NH RSA 21-M:8-g authorizes the Attorney General to nominate, for approval by the Governor and Executive Council, members to serve on the New Hampshire Victims' Assistance Commission. It is the responsibility of the Commission to review claims for financial reimbursement of expenses submitted by innocent victims of violent crimes. This program has been in effect since 1990.

Ms. Cherniske is an accomplished attorney specializing in criminal law. She is currently employed as an Assistant Attorney General at the New Hampshire Department of Justice, and is assigned to the Criminal Bureau. Her broad knowledge of criminal litigation and prosecution will benefit the operation of the Victims' Assistance Commission.

Please let me know if you have any questions concerning this request. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Gordon J. MacDonald
Attorney General

#2737711

Heather A. Cherniske

Admitted to practice in New Hampshire and Massachusetts

EDUCATION

University of New Hampshire School of Law, Concord, NH

Juris Doctor

May 2010

GPA: 3.45/4.00, Cum Laude

Honors and Awards

- Daniel Webster Scholar Honors Program; National Association of Women Lawyers Award Recipient

Activities

- Moot Court Board, Criminal Procedure Moot Court Competition; Co-President, Women's Law Student Association; Teaching Assistant, Legal Skills II; Teaching Assistant, Torts.

The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA

Bachelor of Arts, Public Relations; Minors: Political Science and Business

May 2007

GPA: 3.41/4.00

EXPERIENCE

New Hampshire Attorney General's Office, Concord, NH

Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Bureau

Oct. 2018 – Present

- Review, prepare and prosecute a variety of criminal matters, including cases involving public integrity issues, drug distribution, and homicide.

Assistant Attorney General, Medicaid Fraud Control Unit

Oct. 2013 – April 2015

- Prepared and prosecuted patient abuse, theft, and Medicaid fraud criminal and civil cases.

New Hampshire Department of Employment Security, Concord, NH

Unemployment Fraud Prosecutor

April 2015 – Oct. 2018

- Prosecuted both claimant and employer unemployment compensation fraud, as well as general criminal matters with the Attorney General's Office.
- Supervised and coordinated investigations as well as provided training for investigators.

City of Concord Prosecutor's Office, Concord, NH

Assistant City Prosecutor

Sept. 2011 – Oct. 2013

- Prosecuted violation and misdemeanor crimes and felony cases through probable cause hearings.

New Hampshire Superior Court, Rockingham County, NH

Law Clerk

Aug. 2010 – Aug. 2011

- Assisted judges with research and writing for court orders.

ACTIVITIES AND INTERESTS

- 2019 - 2021 NH Bar Association Board of Governors ABA Young Lawyers Delegate.
- Committee Member, Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee.
- Cooking, running, skiing, and reading.