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ATTORNEY GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

33 CAPITOL STREET
CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03301-6397

JOHN M. FORMELLA
ATTORNEY GENERAL

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September 15, 2021

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

1. Pursuant to RSA 94:3-b; Salary Adjustment for Recruitment or Retention, authorization is requested by the Department of Justice for the confirmation of the Joint Committee of Employee Classification's approval and recommendation of the establishment of a new salary grade DD range of \$64,246 to \$89,414 for the position of Victim/Witness Specialist effective upon Governor and Executive Council approval.
2. Upon approval of requested action #1: That approval be and hereby is given to the Attorney General to appoint Amy Van Auken, Position # 9U667, (Appropriation #02-20-20-200510-2616-014-500134) as a Victim/Witness Specialist, at a salary level of \$68,432 (LG DD, Step 2), effective upon Governor and Executive Council approval or October 8, 2021, whichever is later, for a term ending July 1, 2024.

EXPLANATION

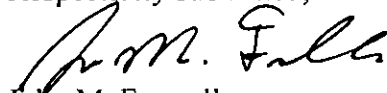
1. As requested in action #1: Chapter 346 Laws of 2019 (HB4), granted the Department of Justice (DOJ) a position entitled *Victim/Witness Specialist* with the ability for the Attorney General to appoint a candidate into this unclassified position effective upon approval of the Governor and Executive Council. The DOJ requests approval and confirmation of the letter grade DD designation, for the position title of Victim/Witness Specialist as approved by the Joint Committee of Employee Classifications.
2. As requested in action #2, appoint Amy Van Auken at a labor grade DD, step 2, at a salary of \$68,432 pursuant to RSA 94:1-a, I(a); Compensation for Certain State Officers; Unclassified State Employees.

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Ms. Van Auken, a Newmarket resident, earned a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from Keene State College in 2015. She was an AmeriCorps Victim Advocate in the Sexual Harassment and Rape Prevention Program at the University of New Hampshire from 2015 to 2016 and Interim Direct Service Coordinator of the program from 2016 to 2017. Since 2017, she has served as Victim/Witness Advocate for the Plaistow Police Department, where she provides services to victims and witnesses from Plaistow, Atkinson, Danville, Kingston, and Newton. She received the Plaistow Service Award from the Plaistow Police Department for her efforts to combat human trafficking and a Champion of Children 2021 Award from the Child Advocacy Center of Rockingham County for her work on child abuse and neglect cases. I intend to assign Ms. Van Auken to the Criminal Justice Bureau's Victim/Witness Unit. Given her years of experience and expertise, a salary of \$68,432 (LG DD, Step 2) is requested. Her resume is attached for your consideration.

I am very pleased to offer Ms. Van Auken's appointment as a Victim/Witness Specialist at the above-referenced salary for your approval and respectfully urge your favorable consideration. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,



John M. Formella
Attorney General

#3299373

Amy Van Auken

EDUCATION: Bachelor of Arts in Sociology (August 2011-May 2015)

Minors: Criminal Justice Studies and Substance Abuse & Addiction
Keene State College, Keene NH

RELATED EXPERIENCE:

Victim/Witness Advocate, Plaistow Police Department, Plaistow NH (January 2017-Current)

- Provide support and assistance to victims and witnesses throughout the criminal justice system to empower them to participate with prosecution for the communities of Plaistow, Atkinson, Danville, Kingston and Newton, NH.
- Coordinate meetings between law enforcement, prosecution, social services and victims or witnesses.
- Assist local law enforcement and prosecution with best practices and protocols when working with victims and witnesses of crime.
- Contact victims and witnesses with any case updates, hearing notices and/or case resolutions and to explain all court proceedings to them.
- Ensure that the victim's voices are heard, and that the New Hampshire Victim's Bill of Rights is upheld.
- Educate the local community and school district on violent crimes including dating violence, domestic violence, elder abuse, and stalking.

Interim Direct Service Coordinator, Sexual Harassment and Rape Prevention Program (SHARPP), University of New Hampshire, Durham NH (August 2016-January 2017)

- Provide direct service to survivors of domestic and sexual violence, and stalking. Direct services include legal, medical and University systems advocacy.
- Supervise all direct services and advocates, coordinate training events, recruit and facilitate the peer advocate class.
- Manage and staff the 24/7 advocacy support line and organize the calendar of the advocates.
- Input data and update client database for the New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence quarterly reports.
- Represent the SHARPP office at all direct service meetings on campus and for the state of New Hampshire, including the local Sexual Assault Response Team (SART).
- Created and maintained relationships with students, faculty, staff, and local law enforcement.

Transitional Housing Advocate, Alternative House, Lowell MA (August 2016-April 2017)

- Provide direct services to domestic violence survivors and their children including crisis intervention, safety planning, counseling, advocacy, parenting support, information and referrals.
- Help maintain a supportive living environment and encourage guest participation in shelter programming.
- Answer crisis calls and assist the advocates in the emergency shelter during times of crisis.

AmeriCorps Victim Advocate (AVAP), Sexual Harassment and Rape Prevention Program (SHARPP), University of New Hampshire, Durham NH (Full service year completed, September 2015-August 2016)

- Provided support, accompaniment, and advocacy to meet the medical, legal, and emotional needs of survivors.
- Empowered survivors and helped them to gain power and control during a time of crisis.
- Assisted survivors through the criminal justice process, the Title IX process, and the process of getting an order of protection.

- Helped to provide awareness and prevention through educational programming and events on campus.
- Managed and volunteered on the 24/7 advocacy support line and updated the referral book for on-call advocates.

LEADERSHIP:

Shout Out Against Sexual Violence (April 2011-April 2015)

- Co-Chair: Organized and facilitated an event where survivors would share their experiences to bring awareness about sexual violence while letting survivors get a chance to find their voice.

Keene State College Sexual Assault and Violence Education (SAVE) (August 2012-May 2015)

- Committee Member: Brought awareness to the campus and raised money for the Monadnock Center for Violence Prevention. These events include Wear Purple for Domestic Violence, the Silent Witness Project, the Clothesline Project, Walk-A-Mile in Her Shoes, Take Back the Night and other events around sexual violence, domestic violence, and stalking awareness.

AWARDS:

Champion of Children 2021 from the Child Advocacy Center of Rockingham County for work regarding child abuse and neglect.

Plaistow Service Award from the Plaistow Police Department for work regarding human trafficking.

177 Department of Justice; Victim/Witness Specialist Positions Reclassified and Established

The positions of victim/witness specialist position numbers 18674, 19419, 9T2817, and 9T2811; within the department of justice shall be designated as unclassified positions. There are hereby established within the department of justice 4 unclassified victim/witness specialist positions. The salary of the victim/witness specialist positions shall be determined after assessment and review of the appropriate temporary letter grade allocation for the positions which shall be conducted pursuant to RSA 94:1-d and RSA 14:14-c. Upon completion of this action and appointments to the unclassified positions, position numbers 18674, 19419, 9T2817, and 9T2811 shall be abolished to allow for the transition of the available appropriations to the unclassified positions. Funding shall be transferred into the proper unclassified expenditure class in the victim witness general accounting unit. The incumbents in the abolished classified positions shall be offered the opportunity to seek the attorney general's nomination for the unclassified victim/witness specialist positions.

178 New Paragraphs; Department of Justice; Criminal Justice Bureau; Victim/Witness Specialist Positions Established. Amend RSA 21-M:8-b by inserting after paragraph IV the following new paragraphs:

V. The attorney general, subject to the approval of the governor and council, may appoint permanent victim/witness specialists within the limits of the appropriation made for the appointments, who shall hold office for a term of 5 years. Any vacancy in such position may be filled for the unexpired term. The victim/witness specialists may be removed only as provided by RSA 4:1

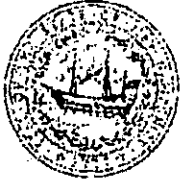
VI. The attorney general, subject to the approval of the governor and council, may appoint unclassified, full-time temporary victim/witness specialists within the federal appropriations made for the appointment, who shall hold office subject to continuation of the federal grant funds supporting the victims/witness program. Any vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment. The victim/witness specialists may be removed only as provided by RSA 4:1, or if the federal appropriation no longer supports the positions.

VII. There is established within the department of justice an unclassified full-time elections attorney. The salary of the elections attorney is established in RSA 94:1-a, I(c).

179 Department of Natural and Cultural Resources; Curatorial Responsibilities Suspended. Due to inadequate funding and staffing resources at the department of natural and cultural resources, the commissioner of the department of natural and cultural resources may suspend the requirements of RSA 227-C and RSA 12-A relative to curatorial responsibilities, for each year of the biennium ending June 30, 2021.

180 Statewide Public Boat Access Fund; Appropriation to Department of Natural and Cultural Resources. Amend RSA 233-A:13 to read as follows:

233-A:13 Statewide Public Boat Access Fund Established. There is hereby established a nonlapsing statewide public boat access fund. The \$5 boat registration surcharge collected pursuant



State of New Hampshire

GENERAL COURT

CONCORD

April 26, 2021

Commissioner Charles Arlinghaus
Department of Administrative Services
25 Capitol Street, Room 120
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Commissioner Arlinghaus,

This is to inform you that the Joint Committee on Employee Classification (RSA 14:14-c) voted on April 23, 2021 to approve the following salary range under RSA 94:3-b for the position listed below:

Director, Nursing, Department of Corrections
Salary range \$110,000-155,000

The committee also voted on April 23, 2021 to approve the unclassified salary grades in RSA 94:1-a for the positions listed below:

Deputy Director, Risk and Benefits, Department of Administrative Services
Salary Grade: GG

Chief Pharmacist, Department of Corrections
Salary Grade: NN

Pharmacists (4 positions), Department of Corrections
Salary Grade: KK

Director, Professional Standards, Department of Corrections
Salary Grade: GG

Director, Employee Assistance Program (EAP), Department of Health and Human Services
Salary Grade: HH

Information Security Officer, Department of Health and Human Services
Salary Grade: GG

Director of Communications (title changed from Public Information Officer),
Department of Justice
Salary Grade: FF

Victim/Witness Specialists (4 positions), Department of Justice *
Salary Grade: DD

We plan on including these changes in legislation in the future.

Sincerely,

Sen. John Reagan, Chairman
Joint Committee on Employee Classification