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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

February 25, 2019

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 Heather A. Cherniske, Position #9U541, Appropriation #02-20-20-200510-2610-013-500132 as an Assistant Attorney General, at a salary level of \$75,500, effective upon Governor and Executive Council approval or March 15, 2019, whichever is the latter.

EXPLANATION

Ms. Cherniske is a resident of Henniker, and a member of the New Hampshire and Massachusetts Bars. She received her law degree from University of New Hampshire School of Law in 2010 where she was a member of the Daniel Webster Scholar Honors Program. She received her Bachelor's Degree from The Pennsylvania State University in 2007. She was an Assistant City Prosecutor for the City of Concord from September 2011 to October 2013. In October 2013, she joined the Department of Justice as an attorney in the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit and in March 2014, she was commissioned as an Assistant Attorney General. In April 2015, Ms. Cherniske became an Unemployment Fraud Prosecutor for the Department of Employment Security. In this position, she was embedded in the Criminal Justice Bureau. In October 2018, Ms. Cherniske rejoined the Department of Justice in the Criminal Justice Bureau where she has handled public integrity, drug trafficking and homicide prosecutions. I plan to continue her assignment in the Criminal Justice Bureau. A copy of Ms. Cherniske's resume is attached.

RSA 94:1-a(1)(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

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of Justice.

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

Respectfully submitted,



Gordon J. MacDonald
Attorney General

#2302288

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, 2009-2010; Criminal Procedure Moot Court Competition, 2008-2009; Co-President, Women's Law Student Association, 2008-2009; Teaching Assistant, Legal Skills II, Spring 2009; Teaching Assistant, Torts, Fall 2008

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.

New Hampshire Department of Employment Security, Concord, NH

Unemployment Fraud Prosecutor

April 2015 – Oct. 2018

- Prosecuted both claimant and employer unemployment compensation fraud.
- Supervised and coordinated investigations as well as provided training for investigators.
- Worked with the Attorney General's Office in investigations and trial and appellate court litigation.

New Hampshire Attorney General's Office, Concord, NH

Assistant Attorney General, Medicaid Fraud Control Unit

Oct. 2013 – April 2015

- Prepared and prosecuted patient abuse, theft, and Medicaid fraud criminal and civil cases.
- Wrote and argued appellate briefs for the New Hampshire Supreme Court.

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

- Committee Member, Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee.
- Cooking, running, skiing, and reading.