# STATE OF MINNESOTA

Executive Department



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SEP 2 1 2023

Governor Tim Walz

President of the Senate

# **NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT**

## Tamar Gronvall

Because of the special trust and confidence I have in your integrity, judgement, and ability, I have appointed you to the office of:

### Commissioner

# **Minnesota Department of Administration**

Effective: October 9, 2023

Expires: January 4, 2027

This appointment carries with it all rights, powers, duties, and emoluments granted by law and pertaining to this position until this appointment is superseded or annulled by me or other lawful authority or by any law of this State.

Signed and sealed September 21, 2023.

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Tim Walz

Governor

**Steve Simon** 

Secretary of State

Filed September 21, 2023 Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State Steve Simon

Replacing: Stacie Christensen

## TAMAR GRONVALL

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#### **EXPERIENCE**

President of the Senate Office for Conflict Resolution, University of Minnesota (All Campuses & Extension) July 2019-Present Director & Legal Counsel

• Lead and manage the University's only independent and impartial office providing counsel and advising to over 20,000 faculty, staff and leadership employees across all 5 system campuses, Extension and affiliated institutions. Advise and provide strategic counsel to University leadership and employees on a wide range of University policies, compliance and risk management, research misconduct, data practices, labor, employment law, including racial, gender and disability discrimination, retaliation, sexual harassment, hostile work environment, misconduct, ethics and best practices. Legal advising counsel for the University's formal employee grievance hearing process adjudicating violations of state and federal law and University policy and procedures. Oversee the referral of appeals to the Minnesota Court of Appeals and binding arbitration. Conduct mediations arising out of the legal hearing and informal resolution process and draft written legal jurisdictional determinations. Serve on President's Initiative for the Prevention of Sexual Misconduct (PIPSUM), the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) and as elected member of Professional & Administrative (P&A) Senate, representing the Office for Equity & Diversity (OED).

State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) & Minnesota Management & Budget May – July 2020 Legal Counsel & Program Creator, COVID-19 Response Emergency Funding (Mobility Assignment)

• Create and lead state-agency wide system and collaboration to obtain Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) reimbursement for FEMA eligible state expenditures on COVID-19 pandemic related expenses including funding for sheltering homeless residents, etc. and transition program to permanent Director.

# Minnesota Tax Court, St. Paul, MN Judge

April 2017-July 2019

• One of three judge court of record with state wide jurisdiction conducting bench trials on all state and local tax appeals across the entire range of tax types including corporate, income, property, sales, special taxes etc. All Tax Court decisions are automatically appealable to the Minnesota Supreme Court. Expand pro-bono initiative and mediation program. Co-manage a small independent state agency and supervise a staff of attorneys and administrative staff. Teach three annual tax CLEs.

## Minnesota Department of Commerce, St. Paul, MN

April 2016-March 2017

General Counsel, Office of Legal Services

• Manage and lead team of attorneys advising the Commissioner and agency on wide range of legal issues and litigation in the areas of employment and labor law, interpretation of labor contracts, consumer protection, banking, insurance, energy, insurance fraud and contracts.

## Office of the Minnesota Attorney General, St. Paul, MN

April 2007-January 2016

Manager, Tax Litigation, Education, Bankruptcy and State Pension Divisions

- Managed team of 10 attorneys and 5 support staff in a wide-range of tax litigation, bankruptcy, employment & labor law and labor contracts, data privacy, real-estate, collections, discrimination and education matters in state, federal, tax, bankruptcy, appellate and administrative courts.
- Directed and litigated multi-million dollar tax cases in Minnesota Tax Court and large scale constitutional, education and employment litigation in Federal Court. Negotiate contracts on behalf of client state agencies. Hire and manage outside counsel in out-of-state litigation.

- Advised and strategized short and long term objectives for the Minnesota Department of Revenue, Department of Education and MnSCU's General Counsel's office, including drafting statutes, rules and other legislative solutions to the client-agencies' enforcement and regulatory goals.
- Annually taught several state-wide tax and education CLEs.
- Initiated and prepared training materials for Division attorneys and staff, prepare monthly budget reports, conduct bi-monthly Division meetings and presentations for weekly management meetings.

Assistant Attorney General, Health Licensing Division, St. Paul, MN

August 2004-April 2007

- Directed civil prosecution and conducted licensing hearings at the Office of Administrative Hearings on behalf of Minnesota's Health Licensing Boards on issues of billing and insurance fraud, sub-standard patient care, drug diversion, employment discrimination and harassment.
- Directed and conducted all aspects of civil litigation on behalf of Health Licensing Boards including written discovery, depositions, expert examinations, motion practice, negotiations, and all aspects of trials.
- Advised Health Licensing Boards on matters of state and federal data privacy regulations, ADA and DEA compliance, insurance coverage, billing fraud, etc.

# Leonard, Street and Deinard, Minneapolis, MN

August 2003-July 2004

Associate Attorney

- Directed and formulated defense in medical malpractice jury trial, conducted expert witness discovery.
- Drafted dispositive and evidentiary motions, drafted discovery and jury instructions in state and federal court for large product liability, medical malpractice and insurance coverage litigation.
- Analyzed complex insurance policies, scientific journals and technical product standards and composed client advisory opinions.

Terhaar, Archibald, Pfefferle & Griebel LLP, Minneapolis, MN

May 2001- July 2003

Associate Attorney

- Independently performed and managed all aspects of civil trial preparation and trials in the areas of construction, fire, mold, tribal sovereignty, products liability, class actions and civil rights cases.
- Analyzed and drafted complex insurance coverage opinions. Recruited new clients to the firm.

#### **EDUCATION**

University of Minnesota Law School, Minneapolis, MN, J.D., Honors:

May 2000

- Dean's List 1998-2000
- LAW & INEQUALITY JOURNAL: Executive Editor & Student Member
- Member, Board of Directors, University Student Legal Services, Chair of Fees Committee
- Member, Educational Policy Student-Faculty Committee

University of Minnesota, College of Liberal Arts, Honors Program, Minneapolis, MN cum laude June 1996 Double Major: Honors Political Science and Philosophy

Honors: Awarded 6 Academic and Community Service Scholarships

# LAW SCHOOL TEACHING & CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION (CLE)

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University of Minnesota Law School, Minneapolis, MN

• Adjunct Faculty, Civil Rights Moot Court, 2006-2007

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Attorney Instructor, Legal Writing and Appellate Advocacy, 2003-2006

President of the Senate

#### Continuing Legal Education, Minnesota

• Taught over 45 Continuing Legal Education (CLE) classes on various topics, 2006-Present

#### PRO BONO WORK and VOLUNTEER COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

- Volunteer, Minneapolis Crisis Nursery, Minneapolis, 2019 to 2020 (due to COVID)
- Volunteer, Conflict Resolution Center-Minneapolis, 2019 to 2021
- Minnesota Women Lawyers, MWL Nominating Committee, 2018 to 2019
- Volunteer Judge, MSBA High School Mock Trial Competition, 2017 to 2019
- MWL Delegate to the MSBA General Assembly, 2016 to 2018
- Volunteer Attorney, Tubman Chrysalis Center, Safety Project, 2016-2017
- Co-Chair, Minnesota Women Lawyers, MWL Leadership Award Committee, 2016-2017
- Volunteer, Salvation Army Harbor Lights Homeless Shelter, 2015
- Volunteer, Goodhue Education District, 2013-2015.
- Volunteer Refugee Asylum Attorney, The Advocates for Human Rights, 2002-2010
- Volunteer Judge, William E. McGee National Civil Rights Moot Court Competition, various times 2001-2012
- Volunteer Judge, Rosalie E. Wahl Moot Court Competition, various times 2003-2007
- Board Member, Pro-Choice Resources, 2002-2004
- Volunteer Attorney, Community University Health Care Center, 2003-2004
- Co-Chair, Minnesota Women Lawyers, Program Committee 2001-03
- Chair, Marcy Holmes Neighborhood Revitalization Project 2001-03

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