

New Attorney Announcement - Nicole Sawyer and Christine Johnson

This past year Norman Hanson & DeTroy welcomed two new attorneys to the firm.

Nicole Sawyer

Nicole is a Maine native who has historically served the people of Maine before joining Norman, Hanson & DeTroy. She attended the University of Maine at Farmington before ultimately graduating from the University of Maine at Augusta. She was inspired to go to law school while working at the Department of Health & Human Services. During her time at the University of Maine School of Law, she was a judicial intern for the Lewiston District Court and with Judge Kermit V. Lipez of the United States First Circuit Court of Appeals. While at Maine Law, she was also selected for the Charles A. Harvey, Jr. Trial Practice Immersion Fellowship, in which she shadowed and assisted many of Portland's top litigation attorneys over the course of an eleven-week rotation.

Nicole was chosen to serve as the student research assistant for the Maine Advisory Committee on Rules of Evidence from 2017-2018, and honed her legal research skills to provide the Committee with guidance for evaluating and proposing changes to the Maine Rules of Evidence. During that same term, Nicole was selected to be Research Editor for the *Maine Law Review*. In her final year of law school, she counseled and represented clients in the Cumberland Legal Aid Clinic. After graduating *magna cum laude* in 2018, she served as a law clerk for four justices of the Maine Superior Court. Nicole lives in Freeport with her husband and their two dogs. In her free time she enjoys walks in the woods, a good game of cribbage, and finding treasures at estate sales.

Christine Johnson

Christine Johnson is a lifelong resident of York County. She attended the University of Vermont, the University of Southern Maine, and Maine School of Law. Before attending law school, she was a case manager at Sweetser and worked with at-risk youth in an immersive adventure therapy program. While in law school, Christine was a student attorney at the Cumberland Legal Aid Clinic, volunteered for the Abused Women's Advocacy Project, and completed an externship at Pine Tree Legal Assistance.

Christine's legal career began at a small bankruptcy firm in Kennebunk, and developed into consumer advocacy work. For several years, she was an active member of MASH (Maine Attorneys Saving Homes), a volunteer advocate for Maine's Volunteer Lawyer's Project, and a mediator for the Maine Judicial Branch. From there, she represented local and national lending institutions in a variety of matters. She has a solid background in real estate, with an emphasis on foreclosure litigation and creditor rights. She also has experience in probate and debt collection. She has presented and participated in numerous panels related to Maine's Foreclosure Diversion Program and Consumer Financial Protection Bureau rules. Christine lives in Buxton with her husband and two daughters. She enjoys spending time with her family and many outdoor activities, including running, hiking, and gardening.