

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** July 27, 2023

## Texas Office of the Attorney General Names Amarillo Child Support Employee Assistant Attorney General of the Year

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Lea Neal singled out as region's top attorney for dedication to Texas children

Amarillo – The Office of the Attorney General recognized Lea Neal, an Assistant Attorney General (AAG) in the Child Support Division's Amarillo office, for her commitment to Texas children. Neal was named Assistant Attorney General of the Year for the Child Support Division's Region 1. She was presented with the award on Wednesday, July 26, 2023, at the Statewide Assistant Attorneys General Conference.

"I am honored to commend Lea for her unwavering commitment and tireless efforts in support of Texas children and families," Angela Colmenero, Provisional Attorney General said. "Her approach exemplifies the best of public service and is an inspiration to us all. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to Lea for selflessly answering the call to serve the people of Texas."

One Assistant Attorney General was selected for this honor from each of the state's ten child support field regions, along with an Assistant Attorney General from the Child Support Division State Office in Austin. Honorees are chosen based upon recommendations from their peers and supervisors, with a particular focus on employees who are willing to go beyond their normal duties to serve Texas children. Each recipient demonstrates a desire to serve Texas families, help their colleagues and enhance the Attorney General's Child Support Division.

Neal, who joined the Office of the Attorney General in 2021, represents the State of Texas in legal actions to establish paternity between children of unmarried parents and their biological fathers. She also works to establish, enforce, and modify court orders that require parents to provide child support, medical support and dental support.

A graduate of Texas Tech University School of Law, Neal was chosen to be the region's Assistant Attorney General of the Year for being an exemplary attorney, willing trainer and a strong leader. She has demonstrated the willingness to take on any task and provide wise legal direction to her co-workers. She has earned the reputation as a reliable leader.

"Ms. Neal is a valuable asset, not only to her office, but to all of Region 1 and the families we serve. We are thrilled to be able to recognize her hard work, cooperative spirit and dedication by honoring her with this award," said Donnis Scott, Region 1 Senior Regional Attorney.

The Attorney General's Child Support Division offers an array of services to help families, including locating absent parents; establishing paternity for children born to unmarried parents; establishing, enforcing and modifying child and medical support orders; and collecting and distributing child support payments.

For more information about the Office of the Attorney General and the child support services it offers, call (800) 252-8014 or visit the agency's website at <a href="https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov">www.texasattorneygeneral.gov</a>.

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