



# Supreme Court of Wisconsin

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A. John Voelker  
Director of State Courts  
  
A. John Voelker  
Acting Clerk of Supreme Court

July 15, 2010

To:

***Via E-Mail:***

Board of Bar Examiners  
Legal Action of Wisconsin, Attention: John F. Ebbott  
League of Women Voters  
Marquette Law School, Attention: Joseph D. Kearney  
Office of State Public Defender, Attention: Nicholas Chiarkas  
Office of the Attorney General, Attention: J.B. Van Hollen  
U.W. Law School, Attention: Kenneth B. Davis, Jr.  
Eastern District of Wisconsin Bar Association, Attention: Katy Borowski, Executive Director  
Western District Bar Association of Wisconsin, Attention: Andrew Clarkowski  
Wisconsin Asian Bar Association, Attention: Yer L. Vang  
Wisconsin Association for Justice, Attention: Jane E. Garrott, Executive Director  
Wisconsin Association of African American Lawyers, Attn: Warren E. Buliox  
Wisconsin Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, Attention: Peter McKeever  
Wisconsin Association of Judicial Court Commissioners, Attention: Julia E. Vosper  
Wisconsin Circuit Court Clerks Association, Attention: Karen Hepfler  
Wisconsin Defense Counsel, Attention: Jane Svinicki  
Wisconsin District Attorneys Association, Attention: Ben Letendre  
Wisconsin Family Court Commissioners Association, Attention: Timothy J. Burns  
Wisconsin Hispanic Lawyers Association, Attention: Carlos A. Ortiz  
Wisconsin Judicare, Inc., Attention: Rosemary Elbert  
Wisconsin Judicial Commission, Attention: James Alexander  
Wisconsin Judicial Council, Attention: April Southwick  
Wisconsin Juvenile Court Clerks Association, Attention: Terry Reynolds Warner  
Wisconsin Municipal Judges Association, Attention: Honorable Derek Mosley  
Wisconsin Registers in Probate Association, Attention: Kay Stelzner  
Wisconsin State Attorneys Association, Attention: Ken Duren, President  
Wisconsin Trial Judges Association, Attention: Honorable Mary M. Kuhnmuensch  
Wisconsin Tribal Judges Association, Attention: Leland Wigg Ninham, President

Re: Supreme Court Rule Matter 06-04 and 06-04A, In the matter of review of amendments to SCR 20:1.15

Greetings,

On May 27, 2010, the Wisconsin Supreme Court further amended the trust account rule under Supreme Court Rule (SCR) 20:1.15 regarding alternative protection for advanced fees and the

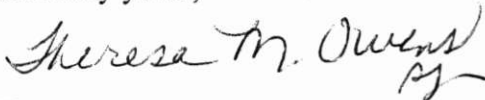
exception for fee and cost advances by credit card. The amendments to SCR 20:1.15(b)(4m) and 20:1.15(e)(4)h. are effective January 1, 2011, but are subject to revision if the court receives comments and further proposed changes that would necessitate a public hearing in the fall of 2010. You are receiving this letter because you may have expressed an interest in this matter or you provided the court with valuable input on the petition.

A brief summary of the history of this rule petition (rule no. 06-04) begins in 2006. The Office of Lawyer Regulation and the State Bar of Wisconsin filed a joint petition on May 22, 2006, proposing certain modifications to the "trust account rule," SCR 20:1.15. On January 17, 2007, the court held a public hearing on rule petition number 06-04. On April 12, 2007, the court voted 6 to 1 to adopt the petition, with modifications. Justice Bradley dissented from that portion of the petition permitting alternative protection for advanced fees, SCR 20:1.15(b)(4m). A copy of the court's order dated May 2, 2007, is available on the court's Web site at [http://wicourts.gov/supreme/sc\\_hearing\\_rules.jsp](http://wicourts.gov/supreme/sc_hearing_rules.jsp). The effective date of the amendments was July 1, 2007, and the court agreed to review the amendments in three years. On November 12, 2009, the court issued an order scheduling a review of the 2007 amendments and requested comments. On May 10, 2010, the court held an administrative conference. The court reviewed the rule amendments, considered the comments and proposed amendments received, and adopted the proposed amendments. A copy of the court's order (06-04A) dated May 27, 2010, is available on the court's Web site at [http://wicourts.gov/supreme/sc\\_hearing\\_rules.jsp](http://wicourts.gov/supreme/sc_hearing_rules.jsp).

Please file any written comments on the 2010 rule amendments by August 15, 2010. All comments should be filed with the Clerk of Supreme Court, Attention: Carrie Janto, Deputy Clerk, P.O. Box 1688, Madison, WI 53701-1688. A Microsoft Word version of any comment shall be e-mailed to [carrie.janto@wicourts.gov](mailto:carrie.janto@wicourts.gov) or [clerk@wicourts.gov](mailto:clerk@wicourts.gov).

If you have specific questions or other comments regarding this matter, please feel free to contact me or my assistant, Susan Gray, c/o Office of the Director of State Courts, P.O. Box 1688, Madison, WI 53701-1688 (telephone: 608-266-6708) (email: [susan.gray@wicourts.gov](mailto:susan.gray@wicourts.gov)).

Sincerely yours,



Theresa M. Owens  
Executive Assistant

TMO/skg

cc: Chief Justice Shirley S. Abrahamson  
Justice Ann Walsh Bradley  
Justice N. Patrick Crooks  
Justice David T. Prosser, Jr.  
Justice Patience Drake Roggensack  
Justice Annette Kingsland Ziegler  
Justice Michael J. Gableman  
Office of Lawyer Regulation, Attention: Keith Sellen  
State Bar of Wisconsin, Attention: George Brown  
State Bar of Wisconsin, Attention: James Boll