

Petition for a Voluntary State Bar of Wisconsin

CLERK OF SUPREME COURT  
OF WISCONSIN

11-04

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PETITIONERS' MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION

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On November 7, 2011, the Supreme Court voted to dismiss the petition in this proceeding without hearing. Petitioners respectfully request reconsideration of the Court's decision, asking that a hearing be set – for three reasons.

First, this matter involves an extremely important issue to the Court, the State Bar, and the lawyers of Wisconsin. Fifty-eight percent of the lawyers of Wisconsin have indicated they want a voluntary State Bar, and a majority of the State Bar Board of Governors voted to petition the Court concerning this subject. The subject is too important an issue for the Court to consider without a hearing.

Second, a hearing would be of great value to all interested persons. Hearings and oral arguments often clarify the positions of the parties, allow the court and all participants to ask and answer questions, bring out common ground that may be explored, and offer the opportunity for compromise and agreement. Denying the petition in this proceeding without hearing forecloses those possibilities.

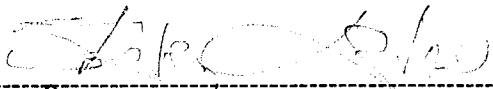
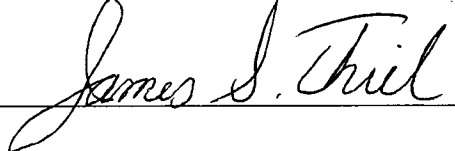
Finally, granting a hearing in this proceeding would indicate the Court's respect for the positions of all interested persons and for the great amount of effort which has gone into this petition – petitioners' effort, the State Bar's Strategic Planning Committee study, and the comments and input of the lawyers of Wisconsin. The Supreme Court of Wisconsin is a great court, which respects and listens to the positions of those who petition it for a rulemaking

hearing, even when the Court at first consideration does not agree with the petitioners' request. A hearing in this proceeding would reflect the polite, professional, and respectful nature of this Court. On the basis of respect for the importance of the issue raised by the petition and for the substantial effort made by all interested persons, petitioners respectfully request that the Court grant a hearing in this proceeding.

Respectfully submitted,

*/s/ Steven Levine*

*/s/ James Thiel*

  
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November 22, 2011