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**STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

February 19, 2013

RECEIVED

FEB 26 2013

CLERK OF SUPREME COURT
OF WISCONSIN

Supreme Court of Wisconsin
P.O. Box 1688
Madison, WI 53703-1688

Dear Justices of the Court:

On January 30, 2013 the Board of Bar Examiners (BBE) submitted to the Court a petition to create SCR 40.145 Fee Waiver for Qualified Veterans.

This proposed rule waives all BBE fees for initial application to practice law in Wisconsin for qualified veterans – except the fee for the bar examination. I have heard from individuals who believe this exception is a significant defect in the proposed rule. I respectfully request that the Court set a schedule for written comments on the proposed rule and a date for a hearing. This will allow members of the bar, veterans, veterans groups, and interested legislators the opportunity for input.

The bar examination fee should be included in the veteran's application fee waiver. To be fair, all fees should be waived for all qualified veterans, regardless of method of entry to the bar. I understand if the Court wishes to act on the proposed rule without undue delay so veterans will have its immediate benefit, the Court could, on its own motion, amend and approve the proposed rule and no written comments or hearing would be necessary.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

JOHN A. SCOCOS
Secretary