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Supreme Court of Wisconsin

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J. Denis Moran
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May 20, 2016

Honorable James J. Duvall Chief Judge, 7th Judicial District Buffalo County Courthouse 407 Second Street S Alma, WI 54610-9753

RE: Rule 13-14; Petition to Amend SCR 60,04

Dear Chief Judge Duvall:

I write on behalf of the Wisconsin Supreme Court to express the Court's sincere gratitude for the work of the Committee that undertook the Court's request for assistance evaluating amendments to SCR 60.04 (1), as they affect a judge's reasonable efforts to facilitate the ability of all litigants to be fairly heard.

We accept, with appreciation, the Committee's offer to survey, with the assistance of the Director of State Court's Office, full-time circuit court commissioners and clerks of circuit court, regarding their respective experiences with the amendments to SCR 60.04 (1). We agree that a survey similar to the one used at the 2015 Wisconsin Judicial Conference would be sufficient for this task. With respect to a survey of bar members, we accept the Committee's determination that it is not the appropriate entity to undertake a State Bar survey. We would appreciate receiving the results of the surveys by the end of 2016, in preparation for this Court's review of the amendments to SCR 60.04 (1), scheduled for July 2017.

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Again, on behalf of the Court, we thank you and the other members of the Committee, Court of Appeals Judges Lisa Stark, Paul Lundsten, and Joan Kessler, Chief Judges James Daley and Gregory Potter, and Attorney Marcia Vandercook from the Director's office. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding this matter.

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Very truly yours,

Patience Drake Roggensack

Chief Justice

cc: All Justices