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April 6, 2017

Clerk of Supreme Court  
Attention: Deputy Clerk-Rules,  
P.O. Box 1688  
Madison, WI 53701-1688.

**RECEIVED**  
APR 06 2017  
CLERK OF SUPREME COURT  
OF WISCONSIN

SENT BY MAIL AND EMAIL ([clerk@wicourts.gov](mailto:clerk@wicourts.gov))

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing in support of the Petition of the Stockbridge-Munsee Community to amend Supreme Court Rule 40.05 (Petition 16-09) to allow legal services provided to a federally recognized Indian tribe be "counted" for purposes of SCR 40.05(1)(b). Regardless of whether an attorney is in private practice or employed as in-house counsel for an Indian tribe, the attorney is practicing law. The extent to which the applicant attorney's practice involves the laws of the state of licensure should not be a factor. The Board of Bar Examiners would not deny the admission to the Wisconsin Bar of an attorney licensed in another state who exclusively practices federal patent law. An attorney who exclusively represents an out-of-state Indian tribe, who is licensed by the state in which the tribe is located, should not be denied admission to the Wisconsin Bar if all other requirements for admission have been met.

Sincerely,

Michael S. Hines