



Supreme Court of Wisconsin

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

110 E. MAIN STREET, SUITE 215

P.O. BOX 1688

MADISON, WISCONSIN 53701-1688

Shirley S. Abrahamson
Chief Justice

Telephone (608) 266-1880

TTY Users: Call WI TRS at 1-800-947-3529; request (608) 266-1880

Fax (608) 267-0640

Web Site: www.wicourts.gov

A. John Voelker
Director of State Courts

David R. Schanker
Clerk of Supreme Court

WISCONSIN SUPREME COURT MONTHLY STATISTICAL REPORT

DECEMBER 2009

This statistical report presents information about the case filings and dispositions of the Wisconsin Supreme Court during the month of December 2009 and to date for the term that began on September 1, 2009.

Opinions Issued by the Court

The Supreme Court issued opinions resolving 4 cases in December. Information about these opinions, including the Court's dispositions and the names of the authoring justices, can be found on the attached table.

	<u>December 2009</u>	<u>Term to Date</u>
Total number of cases resolved by opinion	<u>4</u>	<u>8</u>
Attorney disciplinary cases	3	7
Judicial disciplinary cases	0	0
Civil cases	1	1
Criminal cases	0	0

Petitions for Review

A total of 56 petitions for review were filed during the month. A petition for review asks the Supreme Court to review the decision of the Court of Appeals. The Supreme Court's jurisdiction is discretionary, meaning that review is granted in selected cases only. In December, the Supreme Court disposed of 68 petitions for review, of which 3 petitions were granted. The Supreme Court currently has 173 petitions for review pending.

	<u>December 2009</u>	<u>Term to Date</u>
Petitions for Review filed	<u>56</u>	<u>237</u>
Civil cases	26	116
Criminal cases	30	121

Petition for Review dispositions	<u>68</u>	<u>302</u>
Civil cases (petitions granted).....	39 (3)	166 (22)
Criminal cases (petitions granted)	29 (0)	136 (10)

Petitions for Bypass

In December, the Supreme Court received 2 petitions for bypass and disposed of 2 petitions for bypass. In a petition for bypass, a party requests that the Supreme Court take jurisdiction of an appeal or other proceeding pending in the Court of Appeals. A matter appropriate for bypass is usually one which meets one or more of the criteria for review by the Supreme Court and one the Supreme Court concludes it will ultimately choose to consider regardless of how the Court of Appeals might decide the issues. A petition for bypass may also be granted where there is a clear need to hasten the ultimate appellate decision. The Supreme Court currently has 5 petitions for bypass pending.

	<u>December 2009</u>	<u>Term to Date</u>
Petitions for Bypass filed	<u>2</u>	<u>9</u>
Civil cases	2	9
Criminal cases	0	0
Petition for Bypass dispositions.....	<u>2</u>	<u>7</u>
Civil cases (petitions granted).....	2 (0)	5 (1)
Criminal cases (petitions granted)	0 (0)	2 (0)

Requests for Certification

During December 2009, the Supreme Court received one request for certification and disposed of no requests for certification. In a request for certification, the Court of Appeals asks the Supreme Court to exercise its appellate jurisdiction before the Court of Appeals hears the matter. A request for certification is decided on the basis of the same criteria as a petition to bypass. The Supreme Court currently has 2 requests for certification pending.

	<u>December 2009</u>	<u>Term to Date</u>
Requests for Certification filed.....	<u>1</u>	<u>5</u>
Civil cases	1	4
Criminal cases	0	1
Request for Certification dispositions.....	<u>0</u>	<u>4</u>
Civil cases (requests granted)	0 (0)	3 (3)
Criminal cases (requests granted)	0 (0)	1 (0)

Regulatory Matters, Supervisory Writs, and Original Actions

During the month, a total of 1 matter within the regulatory jurisdiction of the Court (bar admission, lawyer discipline, and judicial discipline) was filed. The Supreme Court also received 3 petitions for supervisory writ, which ask the Supreme Court to order the Court of Appeals or a circuit court to take a certain action in a case. No original actions were filed. An original action is a petition asking the Supreme Court to take jurisdiction over a particular matter. When an opinion is issued in these cases, the disposition is included in “Opinions Issued by the Court” above; otherwise, the case is disposed of by order and is included in the totals below. The Supreme Court currently has 29 regulatory matters and 10 petitions for supervisory writ pending.

December 2009 Term to Date

Filings

Attorney discipline.....	1	10
Judicial discipline.....	0	1
Bar admission.....	0	0
Petitions for Supervisory Writ	3	16
Other (including Original Actions).....	0	3

Dispositions by Order

Attorney discipline.....	3	6
Judicial discipline.....	0	0
Bar admission.....	0	0
Petitions for Supervisory Writ	2	29
Other (including Original Actions).....	2	5

**DECISIONS BY THE
WISCONSIN SUPREME COURT**

OPINIONS ISSUED DURING DECEMBER 2009

ATTORNEY DISCIPLINE CASES

<u>Docket No.</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
2008AP002283-D	Office of Lawyer Regulation (OLR) v. Jay M. Langkamp 60 Day Suspension Per Curiam ¹	12/01/2009
2009AP000353-D	OLR v. Terry L. Nussberger Public Reprimand Per Curiam	12/04/2009
2008AP000417-D	OLR v. John R. Maynard 90 Day Suspension Per Curiam	12/29/2009

CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES

<u>Docket No.</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
2007AP002651	Colleen Pawlowski v. American Family Mutual Ins. Co. Court of Appeals decision affirmed. <u>Majority Opinion</u> : Abrahamson, C.J.	12/29/2009

¹ “Per Curiam” means “by the Court.” Opinions issued *per curiam* are handed down by the Court as a whole.