



# Supreme Court of Wisconsin

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## WISCONSIN SUPREME COURT MONTHLY STATISTICAL REPORT

### SEPTEMBER 2010

This statistical report presents information about the case filings and dispositions of the Wisconsin Supreme Court during the month of September 2010 and to date for the term that began on September 1, 2010.

#### Opinions Issued by the Court

The Supreme Court issued opinions resolving 7 cases in September. Information about these opinions, including the Court's dispositions and the names of the authoring justices, can be found on the attached table.

#### September 2010 Term to Date

|   |          |          |
|---|----------|----------|
| Total number of cases resolved by opinion ..... | <u>7</u> | <u>7</u> |
| Attorney disciplinary cases .....               | 7        | 7        |
| Judicial disciplinary cases .....               | 0        | 0        |
| Civil cases .....                               | 0        | 0        |
| Criminal cases .....                            | 0        | 0        |

#### Petitions for Review

A total of 81 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 September, the Supreme Court disposed of 81 petitions for review, of which 18 petitions were granted. The Supreme Court currently has 194 petitions for review pending.

#### September 2010 Term to Date

|                                  |           |           |
|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Petitions for Review filed ..... | <u>81</u> | <u>81</u> |
| Civil cases .....                | 50        | 50        |
| Criminal cases .....             | 31        | 31        |

|  |           |           |
|--|-----------|-----------|
| Petition for Review dispositions .....   | <u>81</u> | <u>81</u> |
| Civil cases (petitions granted).....     | 48 (13)   | 48 (13)   |
| Criminal cases (petitions granted) ..... | 33 (5)    | 33 (5)    |

### Petitions for Bypass

In September, the Supreme Court received 4 petitions for bypass and disposed of no petition 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 8 petitions for bypass pending.

|  | <u>September 2010</u> | <u>Term to Date</u> |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Petitions for Bypass filed .....         | <u>4</u>              | <u>4</u>            |
| Civil cases .....                        | 3                     | 3                   |
| Criminal cases .....                     | 1                     | 1                   |
| Petition for Bypass dispositions.....    | <u>0</u>              | <u>0</u>            |
| Civil cases (petitions granted).....     | 0 (0)                 | 0 (0)               |
| Criminal cases (petitions granted) ..... | 0 (0)                 | 0 (0)               |

### Requests for Certification

During September 2010, the Supreme Court received no requests for certification and disposed of 1 request 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 1 request for certification pending.

|   | <u>September 2010</u> | <u>Term to Date</u> |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Requests for Certification filed.....       | <u>0</u>              | <u>0</u>            |
| Civil cases .....                           | 0                     | 0                   |
| Criminal cases .....                        | 0                     | 0                   |
| Request for Certification dispositions..... | <u>1</u>              | <u>1</u>            |
| Civil cases (requests granted) .....        | 1 (0)                 | 1 (0)               |
| Criminal cases (requests granted) .....     | 0 (0)                 | 0 (0)               |

Regulatory Matters, Supervisory Writs, and Original Actions

During the month, 2 matters within the regulatory jurisdiction of the Court (bar admission, lawyer discipline, and judicial discipline) were filed and 5 cases (disciplinary) were reopened. The Supreme Court also received no 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. Two 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 23 regulatory matters and 5 petitions for supervisory writ pending.

September 2010 Term to Date

Filings

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| Attorney discipline (including reopened cases)..... | 7 | 7 |
| Judicial discipline.....                            | 0 | 0 |
| Bar admission.....                                  | 0 | 0 |
| Petitions for Supervisory Writ (other writs) .....  | 3 | 3 |
| Other (including Original Actions).....             | 2 | 2 |

Dispositions by Order

|   |    |    |
|---|----|----|
| Attorney discipline.....                | 0  | 0  |
| Judicial discipline.....                | 0  | 0  |
| Bar admission.....                      | 0  | 0  |
| Petitions for Supervisory Writ .....    | 10 | 10 |
| Other (including Original Actions)..... | 0  | 0  |

**DECISIONS BY THE  
WISCONSIN SUPREME COURT**

**OPINIONS ISSUED DURING SEPTEMBER 2010**

**ATTORNEY DISCIPLINE CASES**

| <b><u>Docket No.</u></b> | <b><u>Title</u></b>   | <b><u>Date</u></b> |
|--------------------------|---|--------------------|
| 2008AP002766-D           | Office of Lawyer Regulation (OLR) v.<br>Ryan D. Lister<br>60 Day suspension<br>Per Curiam <sup>1</sup><br><u>Dissent</u> : Bradley, J. joined by Abrahamson, C.J. | 09/01/2010         |
| 2009AP000916-D           | OLR v. Sandra K. Colpien<br>6 Month suspension<br>Per Curiam  | 09/03/2010         |
| 2010AP001118-D           | OLR v. Stephen M. Compton<br>2 Year suspension<br>Per Curiam  | 09/08/2010         |
| 2008AP000085-D           | OLR v. Brian P. Mularski<br>License Revoked<br>Per Curiam   | 09/10/2010         |
| 2008AP001847-D           | OLR v. John H. Peiss<br>1 Year suspension<br>Per Curiam   | 09/17/2010         |
| 2005AP001978-D           | OLR v. Gary George<br>License Reinstated<br>Per Curiam<br>Prosser, J. did not participate.  | 09/30/2010         |
| 2007AP002763-D           | OLR v. Barry LaSieur<br>Public Reprimand<br>Per Curiam<br><u>Dissent</u> : Bradley, J.  | 09/30/2010         |

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