

SUPREME COURT OF WISCONSIN

No. 15-05

**In the Matter of the Petition to
Amend Supreme Court Rule Chapter 31
and Chapter 10.03**

FILED

JAN 27, 2016

Diane M. Fremgen
Clerk of Supreme Court
Madison, WI

On October 7, 2015, the State Bar of Wisconsin, by its President Ralph M. Cagle, filed this rule petition asking the court to amend a paragraph in Supreme Court Rule (SCR) 10.03 and to amend and/or create various sections in SCR Chapter 31 in order to create more opportunities for lawyers to provide pro bono legal services. Specifically, the petition proposes the following:

The petition proposes amending SCR 10.03(4)(f) to provide that registered in-house counsel may provide pro bono legal services when those services are provided at no charge.

The petition proposes new language in SCR Chapter 31 (Continuing Legal Education) to create definitions for the terms "pro bono legal services" and "qualified pro bono program" for purposes of that chapter. It also proposes creating a new SCR 31.05(7) to specify that lawyers may claim one continuing legal education (CLE) credit for every five hours of pro bono legal services provided through a qualified pro bono program, up to a maximum of six credits per two-year reporting period. SCR 31.07(2)(a) would be amended to broaden the purpose of CLE to include fulfilling a lawyer's professional

responsibility to provide pro bono legal services, and SCR 31.08(4) would be created to require lawyers seeking CLE credit for pro bono service to provide information as required by the Board of Bar Examiners.

IT IS ORDERED that a public hearing on the petition shall be held in the Supreme Court Room in the State Capitol, Madison, Wisconsin, on Wednesday, April 13, 2016, at 9:30 a.m.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the court's conference in the matter shall be held promptly following the public hearing.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that notice of the hearing be given by a publication of a copy of this order and of the petition in the official state newspaper once each week for three consecutive weeks, and in an official publication of the State Bar of Wisconsin not more than 60 days nor less than 30 days before the date of the hearing.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the full text of the proposed rules, including changes, if any, in existing rules, shall be placed on the Internet site maintained by the director of state courts for the supreme court. See www.wicourts.gov.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, this 27th day of January, 2016.

BY THE COURT:

Diane M. Fremgen
Clerk of Supreme Court

