

# SUPREME COURT OF WISCONSIN

No. 07-09

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In the matter of the Definition of the Practice  
of Law and the Administration of a Rule  
Defining the Practice of Law.

**FILED**

**NOV 2, 2009**

David R. Schanker  
Clerk of Supreme Court  
Madison, WI

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On June 19, 2007, the Board of Governors of the State Bar of Wisconsin filed a petition asking the court to create a new court rule to define the practice of law and to create a system to administer the rule, subject to supervision and control by the court.<sup>1</sup> A public hearing and open administrative conference on this matter were conducted on December 10, 2007. Numerous interested persons appeared at the hearing or submitted written comments. The court further discussed the matter, including additional written comments received, at open administrative conferences on March 14, 2008, and October 28, 2008.

At its administrative conference on October 28, 2008, the court acknowledged that the "working draft" of the proposed rule now bore little resemblance to the petition originally filed. A majority of the court voted to schedule a second public hearing on the issue of whether this court should adopt a rule defining

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<sup>1</sup> The petition is available on the court's Web site at [http://wicourts.gov/supreme/petitions\\_audio.htm](http://wicourts.gov/supreme/petitions_audio.htm).

the practice of law and create a system to administer the rule, subject to supervision and control by the court.

IT IS ORDERED that a second public hearing on the petition shall be held in the Supreme Court Room in the State Capitol, Madison, Wisconsin, on Monday, March 8, 2010, at 9:45 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 the court will post the most current working draft of the proposed rule on its Web site by January 1, 2010.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that notice of this second public hearing be given by 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.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Notice of the hearing will appear in the December 2009 Wisconsin Lawyer, the official publication of the State Bar of Wisconsin, approximately 83 days prior to the hearing rather than the required maximum of 60 days, due to the State Bar's publication schedule. Notice of the hearing will also appear in the February 2010 Wisconsin Lawyer approximately 21 days prior to the hearing rather than the required minimum of 30 days, due to the State Bar's publication schedule. Pursuant to its rule-making authority under Wis. Stat. § 751.12 and its Internal Operating Procedures, the court exercises its discretion to allow this unavoidable deviation from the requirements.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, this 2nd day of November,  
2009.

BY THE COURT:

David R. Schanker  
Clerk of Supreme Court

