



Supreme Court of Wisconsin

OFFICE OF COURT COMMISSIONERS

110 E. MAIN STREET, SUITE 440

MADISON, WISCONSIN 53703

Nancy A. Kopp
Julie A. Rich
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Commissioners

Telephone (608) 266-7442

December 23, 2015

To: Interested Parties – See Attached List

Re: Rule Petition 07-11C: In the matter of the review of the discretionary transfer of cases to tribal court; and

Rule Petition 14-02: Petition to Amend/Dissolve Wisconsin Statute § 801.54 Discretionary Transfer of Civil Actions to Tribal Court

Greetings:

You received this letter because you may be a petitioner; you may have provided the court with input on one of the above petitions; or you may have expressed interest in this matter.

As you may recall, the court held a public hearing on the above matters on November 10, 2015. The public hearing lasted the entire day. The court heard formal presentations from the Honorable Chip Nielsen and the Honorable James Mohr, on behalf of the Wisconsin State-Tribal Justice Forum; Attorney Connie Chesnik, on behalf of the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families; and Ms. Linda Dallas, on behalf of the petitioners in rule petition 14-02. The court also heard public testimony from individuals including public citizens, tribal leaders, judges, lawyers, and professionals familiar with the rule.

The court has scheduled the above matters for further discussion at its open administrative rules conference on Thursday, March 17, 2016. We anticipate that this conference will begin at 9:30 a.m. An agenda will be released to the public approximately ten days prior to the conference, and can be found on the court's website at <http://www.wicourts.gov>. Please keep in mind that these conferences do not invite or permit public input. However, the public is welcome to attend and listen to the court's discussion. The audio is also streamed on the court's website at <https://www.wicourts.gov/opinions/soralarguments.htm>. It is sometimes available to watch and/or listen to on Wisconsin Eye (<http://www.wiseye.org>).

You may file written comments on these matters. If you wish to do so before the matters are taken up again for discussion by the court, please have your comments submitted no later than Friday, February 26, 2016. Comments should be filed with the Clerk of Supreme Court, Attention: Deputy Clerk-Rules, P.O. Box 1688, Madison, WI 53701-1688. If possible, email a Microsoft Word version of your response to clerk@wicourts.gov. Comment guidelines are found at the court's website at <http://wicourts.gov/scrules/petitioncomment.htm>.

All persons filing written comment must indicate if they are commenting on rule matter 07-11C, rule petition 14-02, or both. If a filing does not identify which matter it addresses, the court will presume it pertains to the comprehensive review, 07-11C, and the document will be placed in that court file. You are reminded that written documents received in rule matters (including emails) are typically posted on the court rules website. The court has discretion to redact or decline to post documents, such as those containing confidential information or offensive language.

As a reminder, you might wish to consult the court's website to follow these matters: <http://wicourts.gov/scrules/supreme.htm>. If you have specific questions or other comments regarding these matters, please contact me by mail at Post Office Box 1688, Madison, WI 53701-1688, by telephone at (608) 261-6642, or by email at julie.rich@wicourts.gov.

Very truly yours,

/s/

Julie Anne Rich
Supreme Court Commissioner

cc: Chief Justice Patience Drake Roggensack
Justice Shirley S. Abrahamson
Justice Ann Walsh Bradley
Justice David T. Prosser, Jr.
Justice Annette Kingsland Ziegler
Justice Michael J. Gableman
Justice Rebecca G. Bradley
Linda Dallas, on behalf of 14-02 petitioners
J. Denis Moran, Director of State Courts
Wisconsin State-Tribal Justice Forum, Attention: Hon. Chip Nielsen, chair

List of Interested Parties for Supreme Court Rules Matters

Badger State Sheriffs Association, Attention: Executive Director
Board of Bar Examiners
Chief Circuit Court Judges
Christian Gossett, Winnebago County District Attorney
Circuit Court Judges
Court of Appeals, Attention: Chief Staff Attorney
Court of Appeals Judges
Dean Dietrich, Attorney
Diane M. Fremgen, Clerk of Supreme Court
Director of State Courts
Eastern District of Wisconsin Bar Association, Attention: Katy Borowski, Executive Director
Legal Action of Wisconsin
Legal Aid Society of Milwaukee, Attention: Kimberly Walker, Executive Director
Marquette Law School, Attention: Joseph D. Kearney
Office of Lawyer Regulation, Attention: Keith Sellen, Director
Office of State Public Defender, Attention: Kelli S. Thompson
Office of the Attorney General, Attention: Brad D. Schimel
Shelley M. Fite, Attorney
State Bar of Wisconsin, Attention: George Brown, Executive Director
State Bar of Wisconsin, Attention: Lisa Roys, Public Affairs Director
State Bar of Wisconsin, Attention: Ralph M. Cagle, President
Steven Levine, Attorney
U.W. Law School, Attention: Margaret Raymond
Western District Bar Association of Wisconsin, Attention: Lynn M. Stathas
Wisconsin Asian Bar Association, Attention: Robin Dalton
Wisconsin Association for Justice, Attention: Bryan Roessler, Executive Director
Wisconsin Association of African American Lawyers, Attn: DeAngela Luna
Wisconsin Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, Attention: Peter McKeever
Wisconsin Association of Judicial Court Commissioners, Attention: Alice Rudebusch
Wisconsin Bankers Association, Attention: Attorney John Knight
Wisconsin Clerks of Circuit Court Association, Attention: Pam Radtke
Wisconsin Counties Association, Attention: Sarah Diedrick-Kasdorf
Wisconsin Defense Counsel, Attention: Jane Svinicki, Executive Director
Wisconsin Defense Counsel, Attention: Monte Weiss, Amicus Curiae Committee Chair
Wisconsin District Attorneys Association, Attention: Margaret Drees, Executive Director
Wisconsin Family Court Commissioners Association, Attention: Sandra Grady, Exec. Secretary
Wisconsin Hispanic Lawyers Association, Attention: Micabil Diaz Martinez
Wisconsin Judicare, Inc., Attention: Kimberly Haas, Executive Director
Wisconsin Judicial Commission, Attention: Jeremiah VanHecke
Wisconsin Judicial Council, Attention: April Southwick
Wisconsin Juvenile Court Clerks Association, Attention: Joy Pecha
Wisconsin Municipal Judges Association, Attention: Honorable Scott Letteney
Wisconsin Newspaper Association, Attention: Executive Director
Wisconsin Registers in Probate Association, Attention: Nancy Dowling
Wisconsin Sheriff & Deputy Sheriff Association, Attention: James I. Cardinal, Exec. Dir.
Wisconsin State Attorneys Association, Attention: Nancy Wettersten
Wisconsin Trial Judges Association, Attention: Honorable Mary M. Kuhnmuench
Wisconsin Tribal Judges Association, Attention: Eugene White-fish, President

List of Additional Interested Parties – if any

Wisconsin State-Tribal Justice Forum members
Oneida Tribal Judicial System, Attention: Gerald L. Hill, Chief Judicial Officer
Oneida Tribal Judicial System, Attention: Denice Beans, Chief Trial Court Judicial Officer
Oneida Business Committee, Attention: Cristina Danforth, Chairwoman
Committee of Chief Judges, Attention: Honorable Donald Zuidmulder, Chief Judge
Ann Olson, Office of Court Operations
Great Lakes Indian Law Center, Attention: Richard Monette, Director
State Bar of Wisconsin Indian Law Section
Village of Hobart, Attention: Andrew Vickers
Wisconsin Department of Children and Families, Attention: Connie Chesnik
Wisconsin Legislative Council Special Committee on State-Tribal Relations,
Attention: Rep. Jeffrey Mursau, Chair
Hon. Robert Collins, Family Court Judge, Oneida Family Court
Hon. James Mohr, Chief Tribal Judge, Lac Courte Oreilles Tribal Court
Hon. Gerald Ptacek, Circuit Court Judge, Racine County
Hon. Gary Sherman, Court of Appeals
Hon. Eugene L. White-Fish, Chief Judge, Forest County Potawatomi Tribal Court
Hon. Gerald Wright, Circuit Court Judge, Sawyer County
Wayne Malone, Chief Clerk, Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Court
Huma Ahsan, Attorney, Madison Immigration Law LLC
Kenneth J. Artis, Attorney, Artis Law Office
Thomas J. Basting, Sr., Attorney, Midwest Mediation LLC
Paul Stenzel, Attorney, Stenzel Law Office
John S. Swimmer, Attorney, Swimmer Law Offices LLC
Nona Danforth
Amanda J. Gerondale
Yvonne Metivier