



# Supreme Court of Wisconsin

16 EAST STATE CAPITOL  
P.O. BOX 1688  
MADISON, WISCONSIN 53701-1688

Shirley S. Abrahamson  
Chief Justice  
Ann Walsh Bradley  
N. Patrick Crooks  
David T. Prosser, Jr.  
Patience Drake Roggensack  
Annette Kingsland Ziegler  
Michael J. Gableman  
Justices

Telephone (608) 266-1880  
Facsimile (608) 267-0640  
Web Site: [www.wicourts.gov](http://www.wicourts.gov)

A. John Voelker  
Director of State Courts  
  
A. John Voelker  
Acting Clerk of Supreme Court

September 14, 2010

To:

See Attached List

Re: Supreme Court Rule Petition 07-11

Greetings,

You will recall that the Director of State Courts filed a petition (rule no.07-09) on July 24, 2007, requesting the Wisconsin Supreme Court create a rule relating to the discretionary transfer of civil cases to tribal courts. By order dated July 31, 2008, a majority of the court voted to create Wis. Stat. § 801.54, Discretionary transfer of civil actions to tribal court, effective January 1, 2009. The court also ordered the circuit courts, tribal courts, litigants, and attorneys affected by to rule to advise the court, in writing, regarding their experience of this rule on or before January 1, 2011. In addition, the court stated it would review the operation of this rule in two years from its effective date of January 1, 2009. See S. Ct. Order 07-11, 2008 WI 114 (issued Jul. 31, 2008, eff. Jan. 1, 2009) (Roggensack, J., dissenting); the order is available on the Web site of the Wisconsin Supreme Court under <http://wicourts.gov/scrules/orders.htm>. (See also S. Ct. Order 07-11A, 2009 WI 63 (issued Jul. 1, 2009, eff. Jul. 1, 2009) (Roggensack, J., dissenting)).

I am assisting the Wisconsin Supreme Court with its review of the rule. You are receiving this letter because you may have expressed an interest in this matter or you may have provided the court with valuable input on the petition. The court has scheduled a public hearing and an open administrative conference on Monday, October 18, 2010, at 9:45 a.m., to review the rule as well as any comments received. If you deem it appropriate, you are invited to appear in person at the public hearing. Please also provide any written comments regarding your experience with the rule by Wednesday, October 6, 2010. Comments should be filed with the Clerk of Supreme Court, Attention: Carrie Janto, Deputy Clerk, P.O. Box 1688, Madison, WI 53701-1688. A Microsoft Word version of any comment shall be e-mailed to [carrie.janto@wicourts.gov](mailto:carrie.janto@wicourts.gov) or [clerk@wicourts.gov](mailto:clerk@wicourts.gov). Please refer to the guidelines for commenting on rule petitions at the court's Web site at <http://wicourts.gov/scrules/petitioncomment.htm>.

If you have specific questions or other comments regarding this matter, please contact Susan Gray, c/o Office of the Director of State Courts, P.O. Box 1688, Madison, WI 53701-1688 (telephone: 608-266-6708) (email: susan.gray@wicourts.gov).

Very truly yours,

/s/

Julie Anne Rich  
Supreme Court Commissioner

JAR/skg

cc: Chief Justice Shirley S. Abrahamson  
Justice Ann Walsh Bradley  
Justice N. Patrick Crooks  
Justice David T. Prosser, Jr.  
Justice Patience Drake Roggensack  
Justice Annette Kingsland Ziegler  
Justice Michael J. Gableman  
Wisconsin State-Tribal Justice Form Committee  
Ho-Chunk Nation, Attention: Hon. Todd R. Matha  
Hon. John Anderson, Bayfield County Circuit Court  
James Botsford, Director, Indian Law Office, Wisconsin Judicare  
Hon. Eugene Harrington, Washburn County Circuit Court  
Hon. James Habeck, Shawano County Circuit Court  
Hon. Thomas Lister, Jackson County Circuit Court  
Jerry Lang, District Court Administrator  
Hon. Amanda Rockman, Ho-Chunk Nation  
Hon. James B. Mohr, Lac Courte Oreilles Tribal Court  
Hon. Neal Nielsen, Vilas County Circuit Court  
Leland Wigg-Ninham, Wisconsin Tribal Judges Association  
Hon. Gary Sherman, Wisconsin Court of Appeals  
Hon. Donald Gurnoe, Red Cliff Tribal Court  
Hon. Robert Miller, Jr., Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Court  
Hon. Stanley Webster, Oneida Tribal Judicial System  
Attorney Paul Stenzel  
A. John Voelker, Director of State Courts  
Michelle Cyrulik, Office of Court Operations

## **List of Interested Parties -- Rule 07-11 (Discretionary Transfer of Civil Cases to Tribal Court)**

Attorney Kenneth Artis  
Bad River Tribal Court, Attention: Hon. Ervin Soulier, Chief Judge  
Board of Bar Examiners  
Eastern District of Wisconsin Bar Association, Attention: Katy Borowski, Executive Director  
Forest County Potawatomi Community Court, Attention: Hon. Eugene White-Fish  
Fox Valley Technical College, Attention: Rebecca Murdock, Tribal Justice Programs Mgr.  
Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council  
Hon. Richard Ackley, Bad River Chipewa  
Hon. Chris McGeshick, Sokaogon Chippewa Community  
Huma Ahsan, University of Wisconsin School of Law, Great Lakes Indian Law Center  
Lac du Flambeau Tribal Court, Attention: Hon. Alice K. Soulier  
League of Women Voters  
Legal Action of Wisconsin, Attention: John F. Ebbott  
Marquette Law School, Attention: Joseph D. Kearney  
Menominee Tribal Court, Attention: Hon. Stephan Grochowski  
National American Indian Court Judges Assoc., Attention: Hon. Eugene White-Fish  
National Native American Bar Association  
Office of Lawyer Regulation  
Office of State Public Defender, Attention: Nicholas Chiarkas  
Office of the Attorney General, Attention: J.B. Van Hollen  
Oneida Tribal Judicial System, Attention: Winnifred L. Thomas  
Scott Idleman, Marquette Law School  
Sokaogon Tribal Court, Attention: Hon. Fred A. Ackley, Jr.  
St. Croix Tribal Court, Attention: Hon. Gloria Merrill  
State Bar - Indian Law Section Board, Attention: Attorney Michael Patrick Murphy  
State Bar of Wisconsin, Attention: George Brown  
State Bar of Wisconsin, Attention: James C. Boll  
State Bar of Wisconsin, Attention: Margaret Porco  
Stockbridge-Munsee Community Legal Department – Kimberley Vele  
U.W. Law School, Attention: Kenneth B. Davis, Jr.  
U.W.-Madison American Indian Studies Program, Attn: Larry Nesper  
Village of Hobart, Attn: Attorney Meg Vergeront  
Western District Bar Association of Wisconsin, Attention: Andrew Clarkowski  
Wisconsin Academy of Trial Lawyers, Attention: Ruth Simpson  
Wisconsin Asian Bar Association, Attention: Yer L. Vang  
Wisconsin Association for Justice, Attention: Jane E. Garrott, Executive Director  
Wisconsin Association of African American Lawyers, Attn: Warren E. Buliox  
Wisconsin Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, Attention: Peter McKeever  
Wisconsin Association of Judicial Court Commissioners, Attention: Comm. Julia E. Vosper  
Wisconsin Clerks of Circuit Court Association, Attention: Karen Hepfler  
Wisconsin Defense Counsel, Attention: Jane Svinicki  
Wisconsin Department of Children & Families, Attention: Connie Chesnik  
Wisconsin District Attorneys Association, Attention: Diane Schlipper  
Wisconsin Family Court Commissioners Association, Attention: Comm. Sandra J. Marcus  
Wisconsin Hispanic Lawyers Association, Attention: Carlos A. Ortiz  
Wisconsin Judicare, Inc., Attention: Rosemary Elbert  
Wisconsin Judicial Commission, Attention: James Alexander  
Wisconsin Judicial Council, Attention: April Southwick  
Wisconsin Juvenile Court Clerks Association, Attention: Vicki Gilbertson  
Wisconsin Municipal Judges Association, Attention: Honorable JoAnn Eiring  
Wisconsin Registers in Probate Association, Attention: Kay Stelzner  
Wisconsin State Attorneys Association, Attention: Quinn Williams/Nancy Wettersten  
Wisconsin Trial Judges Association, Attention: Honorable Mary M. Kuhnmuensch