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CLERK OF SUPREME COURT
OF WISCONSIN

December 3, 2012

Clerk of the Supreme Court
110 E. Main St., Suite 215
P.O. Box 1688
Madison, WI 53701-1688

Re: Petition 12-07, relating to the Supreme Court Finance Committee

Dear Clerk of the Supreme Court:

On behalf of the Committee of Chief Judges, thank you for the opportunity to comment on Petition 12-07.

The Committee of Chief Judges has previously filed a letter regarding membership on the Supreme Court Finance Committee, suggesting that one member should be either the chief of the committee of chief judges or that person's designee, to promote continuity during each two-year budget cycle. We appreciate the court's continued consideration of that suggestion.

At our last meeting on November 6, the Committee of Chief Judges reviewed the petition and all materials filed to date. We have one additional comment, with respect to the draft amendment to Internal Operating Procedure I.A. filed by Justice Roggensack. This draft amendment states in part:

Unanticipated expenditures of court funds not approved as part of the court's biennial budget, regardless of the source of court funds, shall be: (1) subject to the usual expense reimbursement procedure for expenses incurred in the normal course of employment; (2) subject to prior approval of the court when an expense exceeds \$3,000.

The chief judges discussed the potential administrative effect of this provision. Although the chief judges value the role of the finance committee, we feel it could take an inordinate amount of the court's time to review all such expenditures. Certainly it is the court's prerogative to require this level of review, but based on our administrative experience we observe that it may be quite time-consuming to do so.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Dyke', written in a cursive style.

William D. Dyke
Chief Judge of the Seventh Judicial District
Chief of the Committee of Chief Judges