

Wisconsin Trial Judges Association

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September 26, 2013

Wisconsin Supreme Court
Attention: Carrie Janto
Box 1688
Madison, WI 53701-1688

RE: Petition 13-14 for amendment of SCR 60.04

Honorable Justices of the Wisconsin Supreme Court:

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the Wisconsin Trial Judges Association (WTJA), I am submitting this letter in support of Petition 13-14. This Petition requests amendments to the Code of Judicial Conduct to address the ethical responsibilities of a judge when working with self-represented litigants.

The Executive Committee of the WTJA heard a presentation on the proposed rule from Judge Margaret Vergeront of the Wisconsin Access to Justice Commission in May of 2013. We also received a briefing on the final proposal from Judge Vergeront on September 26th, 2013.

The Executive Committee of the WTJA would like to express support for this rule change, and advise you that we plan to bring this Petition to the attention of the full membership at our annual meeting during the upcoming Judicial Conference. Given the many self-represented litigants that trial judges see on a daily basis, we believe these clarifications can be of significant assistance to the circuit courts.

Sincerely,



Mary M. Kuhnmuench
Milwaukee County Circuit Court
President, Wisconsin Trial Judges Association



RECEIVED

OCT 02 2013

CLERK OF SUPREME COURT
OF WISCONSIN