

Carrie Janto - Petition to Amend SCR 81.02

From: Suzanne Edwards <suzanne@attyedwards.com>
To: <carrie.janto@wicourts.gov>
Date: 5/1/2018 3:59 PM
Subject: Petition to Amend SCR 81.02

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**CLERK OF SUPREME COURT
OF WISCONSIN**

Dear Justices of the Supreme Court:

I am certain you received many other emails in support of the petition to amend the hourly rate of pay for appointed counsel, which provide reasons the current low rate is unreasonable. Instead of repeating those, I ask you to consider what appointed counsel pay in overhead for things the district attorneys get for free. Out of my appointed counsel hourly rate, I must pay for utilities, Internet, computers, printers, paper, pens, envelopes, toner, telephone, cell phone, CLE, legal research, support staff, and more. The remainder gets further divided to pay federal and state taxes, living expenses, and law school loans, etc.

Over the last 15 years, I have taken appointments from the State Public Defender and from the circuit courts. However, unless there is a significant increase in the hourly rate for appointed counsel, I will cease taking any more. I simply cannot afford the overhead any longer. Please act by amending SCR 81.02 to the rate sought in the petition.

Yours very truly,

Suzanne Edwards

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