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May 1, 2018

Justices of the Wisconsin Supreme Court
16 E. State Capitol
Madison, WI. 53701
RE: 17-06 Compensation for Court Appointed Attorneys

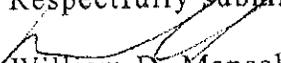
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MAY 01 2018
CLERK OF SUPREME COURT
OF WISCONSIN

Dear Justices,

Please favorably consider raising the compensation for court appointed attorneys to at least \$100 per hour as proposed. I have practiced in Wisconsin since 1980 as an Assistant District Attorney, a staff attorney with the Public Defender's Office covering Lincoln, Langlade, Price and Taylor Counties, and been in private practice for over 30 years. I was president of the Wisconsin Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers 23 years ago when the legislature lowered compensation for appointed counsel to its current level. It was unjustified then and unconscionable now.

Citizens, presumed innocent, have languished in jail as competent counsel could not be found who were willing to donate their time at the current compensation level. The problems have gotten worse through the years-and decades. It is shameful that Wisconsin has allowed this to happen. Please fix it.

Respectfully submitted,


William D. Mansell
SBN 1012425