

***Dunn County Circuit Courts
Judge James M. Peterson – Branch I
Judge Rod W. Smeltzer – Branch II***

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April 27, 2018

Wisconsin Supreme Court
c/o Clerk of Supreme Court
Attn: Deputy Clerk – Rules
P.O. Box 1688
Madison, WI 53701-1688

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APR 30 2018

CLERK OF SUPREME COURT
OF WISCONSIN

RE: SPD Private Attorney Pay Rate Increase

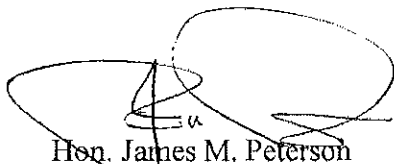
Dear Justices:

I write in support of the petition before the Wisconsin Supreme Court to increase the State Public Defender private attorney pay rate. In my opinion, the effective administration of justice necessitates increasing the hourly rate for private attorneys accepting public defender appointments.

Many of the young attorneys with substantial student loan debt cannot afford to take these appointments.

There has not been an increase in the rate of pay for such appointments in decades. It is long overdue.

Sincerely,



Hon. James M. Peterson
Circuit Court Judge, Branch I
Dunn County, Wisconsin