



LAW & CONSULTING, S.C.

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Clerk of the Supreme Court
P.O. Box 1688
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RE: Petition 19-16 to Amend Wis. Stat. Chapter 802

Dear Honorable Justices:

I am writing in support of Petition 19-16 filed by Quarles & Brady LLP. The Petition requests that the Court amend the Rules of Civil Procedure to restore the important role of ghostwriting in limited scope legal representation.

Pro bono legal services have been a constant part of my practice since being sworn in last May and prior to then throughout my three years of law school. While attending the Marquette Volunteer Legal Clinic's seminar for pro bono volunteer attorneys, I learned of the 2018 amendment of Wis. Stat. § 802.05(2m). I truly believe that pro bono services are vital to our communities given the complexity and expense associated with legal representation. That said, these services are limited in scope and do not carry the same effect from an attorney's perspective as representing an individual through the normal course of representation.

With the added disclosure requirements under 802.05(2m), I became worried that disclosing my name and bar number on documents drafted in a brief legal advice clinic setting would potentially create future conflicts of interest in my private practice. I am also concerned that the documents I assist in preparing will not be produced to the court in the same manner as drafted because I have no control over what happens with those documents after leaving them in the hands of the client. Legal services are expensive and the clients I have served at pro bono clinics rely on limited scope representation like ghostwriting to access justice. Without it, parties often go wholly unrepresented through the legal process causing delay, confusion, and inefficiency in the court system. Requiring attorneys to disclose their names and bar numbers on documents drafted in a pro

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bono capacity deters them from providing limited scope services and further harms the low-income community.

I hope the rule will be restored to allow me to fully engage in this type of pro bono work without the limitations currently in place. Our low-income community members need it.

Respectfully,

Samantha Huddleston
Attorney

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