

Chambers of
Judge Jason A. Rossell
Chief Judge of the 2nd Judicial District
Circuit Court, Branch 2
Kenosha County Courthouse, Room 124
912 56th Street
Kenosha, Wisconsin 53140-3747
Jason.Rossell@wicourts.gov

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March 5, 2020

Clerk of the Supreme Court
Attn Deputy Clerk - Rules
110 E Main Street STE 215
Box 1688
Madison, WI 53701

RE: Responsive Comment on Rule Petition 19-22

Dear Clerk;

I am writing in response to the letters and comments to Rule Petition 19-22, which I filed on behalf of the Chief Judges' Subcommittee on Judicial Education. Due to the timing, it was not possible for me to review the comments with the other Chief Judges prior to the submission of this response. I am, therefore, summarizing the positions taken by the subcommittee as indicated in the report produced by the subcommittee and approved by the Chief Judges.

I agree with Chief Staff Attorney Andrews' friendly amendment eliminating the Staff Attorneys and Supreme Court Commissioners from the required Judicial Education programs. When the subcommittee discussed this proposal, the focus was on the Circuit Court Judges' daily work in juvenile cases and the varied Federal and State laws which impact that work. I agree that the programming would have limited value for the Staff Attorneys and Supreme Court Commissioners.

I appreciate Judge Colas' position regarding the Chief Judges' proposal and not wanting to distort the integrity of Judicial Education. Currently, members of each of the Jury Instruction and Bench Book Committees receive three judicial education credits as long as they attend the committee meetings. These credits are granted based upon their work updating and researching various issues. The reasoning for Chief Judges is similar. Administrating a judicial district requires constant research and updating policies for the court system in each district. Additionally, the Chief Judges tend to be involved in many areas in Judicial Education: as Deans of the Judicial College,

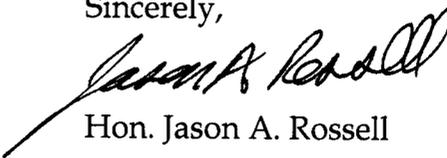
presenters at various trainings, and coordinators and creators of educational programming in their district. This provision seeks to recognize them for their hard work as the members of the Jury Instruction and Bench Book Committees are recognized.

Recently, there has been some difficulty in finding judges in some districts to volunteer to be Chief Judges due to the time commitment and work. The recent caseload study and the legislation authorizing additional Circuit Court branches are a reflection of the reality that Circuit Court Judges have more work placed upon them each year. New initiatives, such as problem solving courts, diversion programs, and new legislative requirements, take a larger and larger time commitment. Quite often, that commitment is made by the Chief Judge. The credit provision was discussed as a possible incentive for those who choose to serve the Judiciary in this role.

I stand by the comments and rationale in the supportive memorandum and respectfully request the Supreme Court to approve the petition.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason A. Rossell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the left.

Hon. Jason A. Rossell