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Sent: Friday, April 24, 2020 8:59 AM

To: Clerk of the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals <Clerk@Wlcourts.gov>

Subject: May 1 public hearing.

To the court:

Regarding the rule "Suspension of Deadlines For Non-Criminal Jury Trials Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic", under consideration by this court, I ask that the court please bear in mind

Although Notice 20-02 repeatedly emphasizes that the Rule is temporary, nothing about the text of the Rule is temporary. A rule which is "effective the date of this order and until further order of the court" (Appendix A, page 8) is not any more temporary than any permanent law.

Although Notice 20-02 claims the Rule is legitimate under Statute 757.12, the Rule has not earned this. The statute provides "judges of the court may appoint any other place within the same county and any other time for holding court." Under the Rule it will be impossible for a court to select another time.

Even if the court has managed to reason that "a delay of one or two months in commencing jury trials is reasonable" (Appendix A, page 11), nothing about a two-month limit is reflected in the Rule.

For a class of people, indefinitely suspending this fundamental individual right is much more damaging to their well-being than a coronavirus epidemic. For everyone in Wisconsin, it would set additional dangerous precedent that in times in conflict of interest, the court is not in reality bound by fundamental law which is drafted to protect individuals in times of conflict of interest.

Please soundly defeat this action and require that any future similar action which vaguely refers to a termination date make a real, specific, and unmodifiable commitment to that termination date.

Thank you,

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