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Subject: April 7, 2021, Public Hearing on Rule Petition 20-09

Dear Clerk of Supreme Court,

I am writing in support of Rule Petition 20-09, to allow videoconferencing appearances during court hearings. I write on behalf of the Family Support Center, a non-profit agency which provides counseling and advocacy services to survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault in Chippewa and Eau Claire Counties.

In instances when our courts have allowed videoconferencing appearances, it has had tremendous benefits to survivors. In addition to mitigating risk on a public health level, it has also eliminated many of the barriers our clients face to appearing in person, such as transportation and child-care, and has mitigated some of their emotional and physical safety concerns.

Thank you for your consideration,

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