

ROBERT DEWANE, CIRCUIT JUDGE



CIRCUIT COURT BRANCH III

MANITOWOC COUNTY COURTHOUSE
1010 SOUTH 8TH STREET, ROOM 212
MANITOWOC, WISCONSIN 54220

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May 14, 2018

RECEIVED
MAY 14 2018

Sheila T. Reiff
Clerk of Supreme Court
Attention: Deputy Clerk-Rules
P.O. Box 1688
Madison, WI 53701-1688

CLERK OF SUPREME COURT
OF WISCONSIN

May it please the Court,

We, the undersigned judges of Manitowoc County, respectfully ask the Justices of the Wisconsin Supreme Court to consider this letter in support of the Honorable Glenn H. Yamahiro's letter asking the Supreme Court to support the petition to amend SCR 81.02 filed by Attorneys John A. Birdsall and Henry R. Schultz on behalf of the Wisconsin Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, the Wisconsin Association of Justice, and others, seeking to amend the rule to change the hourly rate of compensation from \$70 to \$100 per hour, include an indexing provision to tie future compensation rates to cost of living increases, and a provision to ensure that no attorney be compensated less than the rate set by the Court for representation of indigent criminal defendants.

It was only due to the short time window originally afforded that we were not among the 35 judges that signed on in support of Judge Yamahiro's letter to the Court dated May 1, 2018. Out of respect for the time and consideration of the Supreme Court, we do not re-state Judge Yamahiro's arguments in support of the petition. Please know, though, that for the reasons stated, we do fully join the other Circuit Court Judges in their support of the same.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark R. Rohrer
Circuit Court Judge
Branch 1
Manitowoc County

Gary L. Bendix
Circuit Court Judge
Branch 2
Manitowoc County

Robert Dewane
Circuit Court Judge
Branch 3
Manitowoc County