

January 7, 2014

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**CLERK OF SUPREME COURT
OF WISCONSIN**

Diane M. Fremgen
Clerk of Supreme Court
Wisconsin Supreme Court
P.O. Box 1688
Madison, WI 53701-1688

Re: Order 13-09
Petition for Revision of Supreme Court Rule 10.03(3) and 10.03(5)

Dear Ms. Fremgen,

I will not be able to attend the public hearing scheduled for January 21, 2014. Attached is a letter to the Justices outlining my concerns with the proposed rule change. I would appreciate it if you would bring the letter to their attention,

Thank you for your help,

Yours truly,



William C. Sturm
5200 N. Ocean Blvd. Unit 115
Lauderdale By The Sea, Florida 33308
(954) 933-1445

January 7, 2014

Wisconsin Supreme Court
P.O. Box 1688
Madison, WI 53701-1688

Re: Order 13-09
Petition for Revision of Supreme Court Rule 10.03(3) and 10.03(5)

Dear Justices:

This letter is respectfully submitted to request a minor, equitable modification to the above-referenced proposed rules change. Specifically, I am requesting the addition of language permitting attorneys who have previously been granted emeritus status and are exempt from paying State Bar dues, to retain that exemption.

As an example, in my case the concern that I have with the above petition is that it appears to change my status.

The year after I turned 70, I requested and received emeritus status. (Please see the attached letter). If I am reading the proposed revision correctly, all of the emeritus attorneys in Wisconsin, that are between the ages of 70 and 75, who have qualified for, and received all the current benefits of emeritus status, will have that status and benefits revoked and will now be either active emeritus members or senior emeritus members and required to pay dues.

It is understandable that with the number of older attorneys growing, the State Bar would want to increase the age at which dues do not have to be paid. . A national legal organization, that I still belong to, was in a similar situation and increased the age at which dues did not need to be paid. The big difference was that this organization did not attempt to take away a status and benefit that had been conferred, but instead, applied the change only to those that reached the critical age after the change was made.

If the Court decides to approve the petition of the State Bar, I would request that it do so with the stipulation that those attorneys who are between the ages of 70 and 75, and, who have previously been given emeritus status including “. . . full membership benefits without payment of State Bar dues or Supreme Court Board assessments” be grandfathered and not have their status changed. Perhaps the following language would accomplish that: ‘Attorneys between the ages of 70 and 75, who prior to January 1, 2014, have requested and received emeritus status, will continue to receive full membership benefits without payment of State Bar dues or Supreme Court Board assessments’.

Thank you for considering my position in this matter.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Sturm', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

William C. Sturm
5200 N. Ocean Blvd. Unit 115
Lauderdale By The Sea, Florida 33308
(954) 933-1445



**STATE BAR
OF WISCONSIN**
Your Practice. Our Purpose.™

August 12, 2011

Atty. William C. Sturm
Rausch, Sturm, Israel, Enerson & Hornik LLC
250 N Sunny Slope Rd Ste 300
Brookfield, WI 53005-4824

Dear Atty. Sturm:

We have received and processed your request to change your State Bar membership status to emeritus.

Emeritus status brings with it all the privileges of active membership in the State Bar of Wisconsin. You will receive full membership benefits without payment of State Bar dues or Supreme Court Board assessments. However, you will still be required to pay for the Wisconsin Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection when there is an assessment.

In addition, emeritus members are exempt from any future CLE requirements. If you are unsure as to whether you have completed all past requirements, please contact the Board of Bar Examiners, Room 715, 110 E Main St., Madison, WI 53703, (608) 266-9760.

If there is anything we can do to assist you during this new phase of your career, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Melissa Ford', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Melissa Ford