

Carrie Janto - Support for Public Defender Hourly Fee Increase for Appointed Counsel

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Date: 4/30/2018 1:00 PM
Subject: Support for Public Defender Hourly Fee Increase for Appointed Counsel

Ms. Janto,

Please consider this my formal comment in support of the SCR 81.02 rule petition to increase the private rate for appointed counsel to \$100 per hour. Having once worked as Public Defender appointed counsel I am well aware of how difficult it can be to accept cases at the current rate of \$40 per hour. This combined with the delay in processing payment reimbursement requests act as an extreme disincentive to accept these cases – all to the detriment of the indigent clients that Wisconsin attorneys are expected to serve. The current situation in Wisconsin is shameful and needs to be corrected so that indigent clients not continue to suffer.

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