



# Supreme Court of Wisconsin

DIRECTOR OF STATE COURTS  
110 E. MAIN STREET, SUITE 410  
MADISON, WISCONSIN 53703

Hon. Randy R. Koschnick  
Director of State Courts

Patience Drake Roggensack  
Chief Justice

Diane M. Fremgen  
Deputy Director for Court Operations

February 22, 2019

Wisconsin Supreme Court  
110 East Main Street  
P.O. Box 1688  
Madison, WI 53701-1688

## **RE: Minor Amendment to Petition 19-01**

Honorable Justices of the Wisconsin Supreme Court,

To eliminate conflicting language, I am writing today to request a minor amendment to Petition 19-01. The request is for the repeal of SCR 70.245 (2), which states that the “director of state courts, with the advice and consent of the chief judges, may assign any official court reporter, as needed, to any court within the *adjoining* districts.” (emphasis added)

Rule Petition 19-01, as drafted and filed, asks for a change to SCR 70.245(1), allowing the Director of State Courts (Director) to make *interdistrict* court reporter assignments. In contrast, the existing rule, SCR 70.245(2), only allows for the Director to make assignments in *adjoining* districts.

The change from “adjoining” to “interdistrict” is not meant to be burdensome for the traveling court reporter, but rather to allow assignments that may be more geographically convenient. To give an anecdotal example, under the existing rule, the Director can assign a court reporter from Adams County to cover court in Douglas County (238 miles away). This is because Adams and Douglas Counties are in “adjoining” judicial districts (i.e. District 7 and District 10 respectively). However, the existing rule does not allow the Director to assign a court reporter in Adams County to cover court in Waupaca County (63 miles away in District 8). This is because District 7 is not adjoining District 8.

If the Court accepts this amendment, Petition 19-01 would state:

**Section 5.** SCR 70.245 (1) is amended to read:

SCR 70.245 (1) The chief judge or district court administrator may assign any official court reporter, as needed, to any court within the district, to assure adequate coverage of all reported proceedings. Interdistrict assignments may be made with the approval of the director of state courts.

*This is already in the existing petition.*

**Section 6.** SCR 70.245 (2) is repealed.

*This is an addition to the petition.*

This small change would recognize the needs of the court system, while eliminating geographical impediments to assigning coverage. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

---

Randy Koschnick  
Director of State Courts