

In the Matter of the Petition of the  
State Bar of Wisconsin Regarding  
Cultural Competency and Reduction of Bias  
Training for Continuing Legal Education  
Under Chapter 31 of the Supreme Court Rules

PETITION 24-04

To: Chief Justice Annette Kingsland Ziegler  
Justice Ann Walsh Bradley  
Justice Rebecca Grassl Bradley  
Justice Rebecca Frank Dallet  
Justice Brian Hagedorn  
Justice Jill J. Karofsky  
Justice Janet C. Protasiewicz

FILED

JUN 27 2024

CLERK OF SUPREME COURT  
OF WISCONSIN

This request for modification of SCR 31.02 comes before the Wisconsin Supreme Court pursuant to its inherent authority over the legal profession of this state. See also Wis. Const. Art. VII, § 3; *In re Kading*, 70 Wis. 2d 508, 519-20; 235 N.W.2d 409 (1976). The State Bar is requesting the Court act to recognize for CLE credit education courses regarding cultural competency and the reduction of bias.

## TEXT OF PROPOSED CHANGES

**SECTION 1.** Supreme Court Rule 31.02 (5), is created to read as follows:

SCR 31.02 (5) A lawyer may attend a maximum of six (6) hours of the 30 hours required under sub. (1) on the subjects of cultural competency and the reduction of bias within the legal system. Cultural competency means a course designed to improve client communication and representation through the lens of knowledge and understanding of diverse populations with a sensitivity to cultural and other differences in personal traits for application when interacting with members of the public, judges, jurors, litigants, attorneys, and court personnel. Reduction of bias means a course designed to educate attorneys to identify and reduce from the legal

profession, the practice of law, and the legal system at large, biases against persons because of but not limited to age, race, gender, gender identity, economic status, veteran status, creed, color, religion, national origin, disability, or sexual orientation and to remove barriers to access to justice arising from discriminatory behavior.

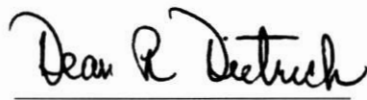
**SECTION 2.** Supreme Court Rule 31.02 (5), is renumbered to read as follows:

~~(5)~~ (6) A lawyer may not claim credit for attending the same course more than one time during a reporting cycle.

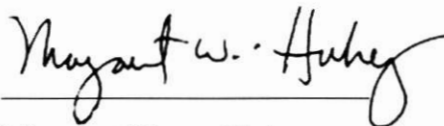
A memorandum setting forth the reasons for this petition is attached.

Respectfully submitted this 27th day of June, 2024.

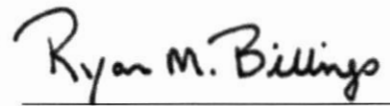
STATE BAR OF WISCONSIN



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