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December 11, 2024

Clerk of Supreme Court
P.O. Box 1688
Madison, WI 53701

Re: Letter in Support of Petition 24-05

To All Who Read This Letter, Greetings:

I am retired Quarles & Brady partner who has chosen, with the support of the Firm, to take pro bono cases in my field of expertise which is estate planning and probate law. In all the cases that I have taken, I see individuals with meritorious claims but without funds to pursue them. Most recently a legal Ethiopian immigrant, disinherited by her spouse, was encumbered with marital property debts but with no funds to pay them. I have taken other cases where a spouse has given away marital property to non-spouse donees where the amount involved is not large enough to attract conventional legal representation but represents vital funds to the plaintiff.

In short, I see people ignorant of their rights often being bullied by those with more power or more funds whose only avenue of help is the pro bono lawyer.

For these reasons I urge support of Petition 24-05 and all other assistance which would promote private pro bono legal representation.

Very sincerely yours,

QUARLES & BRADY LLP

John T. Bannen

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