KAISER LAW FIRM

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

FILED

October 10, 2024

OCT 15 2024

Clerk of Supreme Court Attention: Deputy Clerk – Rules PO Box 1688

Madison, WI 53701-1688

CLERK OF SUPREME COURT OF WISCONSIN

RE: Petition 24-05 Adjustment to Attorney Assessment for Public Interest Legal Services Funding

To the Justices of the Supreme Court of Wisconsin:

I write in support of Petition 24-05 to increase the Public Interest Legal Services Fund (PILSF) assessment. As an officer of the Court, I strongly support equal access to justice for all people. Legal assistance to the poor is necessary, if we are to maintain such access.

I have practiced law in Eau Claire for 48 years, and have represented thousands of disabled and injured people before the Social Security Administration and the Wisconsin Worker's Compensation Division.

Most of my clients have been hardworking, decent people who, despite "playing by the rules", have been faced with seemingly impossible legal dilemmas. Other clients have been decent, unfortunate persons who have either been born into poverty, or who have slipped through society's cracks.

Many of my clients have problems outside my area of expertise. In those cases, services offered by Judicare Legal Aid has come to their rescue more times than I can count.

Inflation is a fact of life. Increased support of Wisconsin's legal assistance programs by us lawyers is necessary if we are to do more than give lip service to our traditional commitment to legal aid to the poor.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

John A. Kaiser