Juneau County Circuit Court

Honorable Paul S. Curran - Branch II 200 Oak Street Mauston, WI 53948-1349

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February 26, 2018

Chief Justice Patience D. Roggensack Wisconsin Supreme Court P. O. Box 1688 Madison, WI 53701-1688

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

Re: Comment on Rule Petition 18-01

Chief Justice Roggensack and Associate Justices of the Wisconsin Supreme Court:

I write to address an issue raised in Director of State Court's Judge Randy Koschnick's comment on Rule Petition 18-01 dated February 14, 2018.

In his letter, Judge Koschnick took issue with my statement that "No judges in District Six were consulted about this proposal." He felt that this statement was incorrect. His letter, however, establishes that it is true.

In his letter of February 14, 2018, Judge Koschnick sets forth a timetable for how this proposal was communicated to members of the judiciary. The timetable set forth in his letter is essentially the same as I referenced in my letter of November 30, 2017. I believe that his timetable and sequence of events is accurate. I believe that his conclusion, however, is inaccurate.

Judge Koschnick's letter indicates that the chief judges were informed of the proposal at the chief judge meeting on November 14, 2017. He states "They were provided with details including a proposed realignment map and talking points memo for use in their discussions with other judges.

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Apparently Judge Koschnick and I have a different understanding of the meaning of the word "consulted." To be informed of the plan after it was formulated and maps were drawn is not consultation. It is merely notification.

As I use the word "consult" I understand it to mean to seek advice or opinions. Clearly, no judges in District Six even knew of the existence of the plan until it was formalized and finalized into a map and presented with a talking points memo to the chief judges. To the best of my knowledge, no judge in District Six was even aware that such a plan was being considered.

As Judge Koschnick said in his letter of February 14, 2018, I do not write today to debate the merits of the proposal, rather, I write solely for the purpose of correcting the record as it relates to District Six judges being consulted about the proposal.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Paul S. Curran Circuit Judge

PSC:caw

c: Justice Shirley Abrahamson
Justice Ann Walsh Bradley
Justice Annette Ziegler
Justice Michael Gableman
Justice Rebecca Bradley
Justice Daniel Kelly
Honorable Randy R. Koshnick
Chief Judge Gregory Potter
District Court Administrator Ron Ledford