



Law Offices of

RAYMOND E. SCHRANK II, S.C.

Mailing Address:
PO Box 49
Muskego, WI 53150

Tel: 262-679-2094
Fax: 262-679-2099
www.schranklaw.com

September 5, 2019

Clerk of Supreme Court
Attn: Deputy Clerk-Rules
PO Box 1688
Madison, WI 53701-1688

Re: Rule Petition 19-08

Dear Clerk:

The proposed rule petition to eliminate the OLR District Committees is a mistake. Between January 2006 and February 2013 I served on the District 2 Committee when my law office was in Milwaukee County. I moved my law practice to Waukesha County and have been on the District 6 Committee since July 1, 2015. My current term expires on December 31, 2020. Up until 2017 I was a solo practitioner and remain in a small firm with two attorneys.

Although District 2 was far more active than District 6, I believe the local committees should be continued. First, it provides for local attorneys and non-attorneys an opportunity to evaluate certain practice issues and participate in the process. Second, the process has and should assist OLR in allowing for local input in the final OLR decision. Although not binding on OLR, the committee action bears consideration. Third, the process allows for a group from the local community to participate in OLR activities which provides for local community input in the disciplinary process.

Although understanding that this process may delay the OLR grievance procedure, it does allow for interviews and reporting which can assist OLR in reaching a fair conclusion, which should be the ultimate goal of the Supreme Court. It also allows an opportunity to identify meritless claims without exposing the attorney to a more expensive defense when solely dealing with OLR.

As one of many lawyers who are willing to give of their time to assist in lawyer accountability, it seems that the Supreme Court should recognize and facilitate the District Committees and to allow

Raymond E. Schrank II
Email: res@schranklaw.com

Kristin M. Schrank
Email: kms@schranklaw.com

*Certified Civil Trial Advocate since 1984
American Board of Professional Liability Attorneys Diplomate since 1989
Super Lawyer since 2006
Member of American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA)*

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the committee to assist in the process. It is important that the practitioners of law be allowed input in standard of practices and ethical issues of their fellow attorneys.

Sincerely,

/s/ Raymond E. Schrank II

Raymond E. Schrank II

RES:bas