



Judge Shelley J. Gaylord
Dane County Circuit Court, Branch 6
215 S Hamilton St., Rm. 5105
Madison, WI 53703-3289



Chris Bowler, Clerk
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Clerk of Supreme Court
ATTN: Deputy Clerk-Rules
P.O. Box 1688
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RE: Rule Petition 19-22

Dear Clerk of the Supreme Court,

I write in support of the proposed changes to continuing education for circuit court judges and commissioners. As someone serving as the presiding judge in the juvenile rotation and with forty years experience with juvenile law overall, I enthusiastically support the new requirement as to juvenile law. It is not a simple area of law, yet the stakes are quite high for the youth and families. Having also practiced in family and civil law, with some experience in criminal law, I can say with confidence that the requirements for the judiciary and commissioners in providing timely, frequent and rigorous oversight not only as to constitutional rights, but also as to the social service agencies charged with enforcing legislative intent and court orders, is not matched in any other area of law. Chapters 48 and 938 are rife with in-depth judicial oversight of cases. There have been years of state-wide and national efforts to improve the knowledge and practice in this area. Finally, one of the main goals of these chapters is to intervene earlier to reduce crime and a plethora of social problems. This requirement is an important step in supporting that work and seeing that the judicial branch performs its proper oversight role.

As for the rest of the petition's substance, I also support the credits modifications and other changes in requirements. For those serving as chief of a judicial administrative district, the work devoted to that is significant. At the same time, I support reducing credits for reserve judges from five to four. Given the other educational requirements throughout a judge's service, this allows reserve judges a modest reduction to two half days of education in an area of their choosing. Finally, the change from forty to one hundred sixty hours makes sense in changing required compliance for those who do not spend a great deal of time in those areas of service.

Respectfully,

Shelley Gaylord – Presiding Juvenile Judge