The State of Wisconsin

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER # 29

Relating to the Creation of the Governor's Judicial Selection Advisory Committee

WHEREAS, an independent judiciary serves a vital and significant role in securing justice, protecting property rights, and preserving the liberty of Wisconsin citizens; and

WHEREAS, our government was founded upon the rule of law, and the judiciary was designed to exercise "neither force nor will, but merely judgment"; and

WHEREAS, the judiciary must be comprised of men and women who faithfully guard the state and federal constitutions and the laws of this state, and who humbly say what the law is and subordinate their personal views to the law; and

WHEREAS, the significance and solemn nature of the judicial office requires that those who assume this office be attorneys with a superior intellect, unquestioned integrity, demonstrated legal skill, and a dedication to the rule of law; and

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Constitution confers upon the Governor the power to appoint individuals to fill vacancies in Wisconsin courts until a successor is elected as provided by law; and

WHEREAS, in carrying out this power, the Governor will benefit from the advice of a Committee composed of distinguished members of Wisconsin's legal community who are committed to finding and recommending only the highest caliber individuals who share a commitment to the rule of law;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Scott Walker, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of this State, and specifically by Wis. Stat. § 14.019, do hereby create the Governor's Judicial Selection Advisory Committee and provide as follows:

1. The Committee shall consist of any number of individuals as determined by the Governor.

2. Committee members shall be appointed by and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor for 12-month renewable terms.

3. The Committee shall consider and review all applications for judicial vacancies as referred by the Office of the Governor.

4. The Committee shall recommend individuals to the Governor for appointment to judicial office in accordance with the principles outlined above, paying special attention to an applicant's reputation as an attorney, work ethic, temperament, intelligence, legal skills, experience, integrity, writing abilities, and judicial philosophy.

5. The Governor shall designate a Chairperson to govern the Committee in the fulfillment of its duties.

6. The Chairperson shall have the discretion to determine the method by which the Committee shall consider and recommend applicants, and shall have the power to appoint temporary members to the Committee as he or she deems necessary.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this eleventh day of May, in the year two thousand eleven.

SCOTT WALKER
Governor

By the Governor:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State