

STATE OF WISCONSIN
SUPREME COURT

In the Matter of Judicial Disciplinary
Proceedings Against the
The Honorable Annette K. Ziegler

Wisconsin Judicial Commission,

Complainant,

Case No. _____

v.

The Honorable Annette K. Ziegler,

Respondent.

STIPULATION AND JOINT RECOMMENDATION FOR REPRIMAND

IT IS HEREBY AGREED AND STIPULATED by and between Complainant, the Wisconsin Judicial Commission (“Commission”) and Respondent, Annette K. Ziegler, formerly Circuit Judge for Washington County (“Judge Ziegler”) as follows:

1. Judge Ziegler admits the allegations in the Complaint filed by the Commission.

2. Recognizing that appropriate discipline is entirely within the province of the Supreme Court, for the reasons set forth in this stipulation and existing precedents, the Commission and Judge Ziegler jointly recommend that a reprimand is the appropriate discipline.

3. The Commission acknowledges that Judge Ziegler has cooperated with the Commission in its investigation, appeared in person before the Commission on August 23, 2007, and has fully and forthrightly answered all

questions put to her. She has also fully provided all information requested by the Commission.

4. Judge Ziegler did not gain or attempt to gain a financial advantage for herself or her family. There is no indication that any case was decided incorrectly. The Commission accepts her statement that such conduct was inadvertent and not intentional.

5. The Commission acknowledges that before the current investigation, Judge Ziegler has not been the subject of any judicial discipline or investigation. Judge Ziegler was first appointed to the Circuit Court bench on April 21, 1997, and was elected by the voters to that position in April 1998, and April 2004. In April of 2007, Judge Ziegler was elected by the voters in a state-wide election to a 10-year term as justice of the Wisconsin Supreme Court. Before resigning as a Circuit Judge after her election, Judge Ziegler served for six years as the presiding judge of Washington County and was the Deputy Chief Judge for her district (Washington, Ozaukee, Jefferson, and Waukesha counties). Since her appointment in 1997 and through June 6, 2007, she has been the “responsible judge” for 32,213 cases according to computer information generated by the Director of State Courts.

6. Judge Ziegler has not been the subject of any discipline as an attorney. Judge Ziegler has been admitted to the bar since May, 1989.

7. Judge Ziegler acknowledges and expresses her deep regret for the errors in judgment which she made and for any effect her conduct may have had

on the Wisconsin judicial system. For that she apologizes to this Court and to the public.

8. Judge Ziegler has already taken corrective action on her own volition by seeking and receiving an "Order Amending Rotation" in March 2007, which made it impossible for her as a Circuit Judge in Washington County to ever again be assigned cases involving West Bend Savings Bank. She has likewise made arrangements with the Commissioner staff of this Court so that if any cases involving West Bend Savings Bank are ever filed with this Court, no materials regarding such cases will be transmitted to her, so long as her husband is on the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

WISCONSIN JUDICIAL COMMISSION

By: _____
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Dated: September ____, 2007.

DEWITT ROSS & STEVENS s.c.

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