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MEDIA ALERT

Imagine holding the same job for 30 years without ever once receiving a raise. If that job required you to pay for many of the associated costs of doing business, inflation alone would have significantly decreased your take home pay. Regardless of the profession, the quality of the work being performed under such a financial arrangement will always be questioned. Now imagine that 20 years ago you were forced to take a 20% pay cut and you are at the same salary today.

This example is not a hypothetical. It describes the financial conflicts the State of Wisconsin imposes on lawyers asked to defend poor people charged with crime, thus jeopardizing the state's ability to provide constitutionally mandated effective assistance of counsel.

WHAT: A coalition of Wisconsin legal experts announces a new petition requesting the state Supreme Court remedy the constitutional crisis caused by Wisconsin's "lowest in the nation" public counsel compensation rates.

WHERE: The Assembly Parlor, State Capitol
2 E Main St, Madison, WI 53703

WHEN: May 25, 2017, 11:00 AM

WHO: State and national speakers will make the case for change:

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The 6AC's report, *Justice Shortchanged: Assigned Counsel Compensation in Wisconsin*, is available at: <http://sixthamendment.org/wisconsin-report/>