

February 7, 2023

VIA E-MAIL Jeremiah Van Hecke Executive Director Wisconsin Judicial Commission 110 E. Main Street Suite 700 Madison, WI 53703

Re: Justice Jill Karofsky

Dear Attorney Van Hecke,

Now that the Judicial Commission has dismissed the allegations against my client, Justice Jill Karofsky, in exchange for an expression of concern, we send this letter to reiterate that Justice Karofsky: (a) stands by every word of our November 12, 2021 submission to the Judicial Commission which we have attached and (b) is admitting to absolutely no wrongdoing.

During the December 11, 2020 oral argument that is at issue in this complaint. Justice Karofsky was pushing back on an attempted coup against the lawful government of the United States. She pushed back because the voters of Wisconsin elected her to protect the rule of law. Additionally, her oath of office requires her to defend and protect the constitution of the United States and the State of Wisconsin. In this instance, Justice Karofsky admirably discharged her duties.

Moreover, as noted in our November 2021 submission, Justice Karofsky was not the only member of the judiciary voicing concern about the parallels between the former president and a monarchy. For instance, then-Judge Kentanji Brown Jackson stated in <u>Comm. on Judiciary</u>, <u>United States House of Representatives v McGahn</u>, 415 F.Supp 3d 148 (D.D.C. 2019), "Stated simply the primary takeaway from the past 250 years of recorded American history is that Presidents are not kings."

Finally and perhaps most importantly, this complaint is very likely a harbinger. This baseless complaint was dragged out for 16 months only to end in a dismissal. The commission cannot allow partisan actors to proceed in bad faith and hijack the disciplinary system, in an attempt to silence a justice who rightfully tried to stop frivolous and dangerous arguments that

February 7, 2023 Page 2

undermined our democracy. We believe the Commission risks setting a dangerous precedent. By allowing the Commission to be weaponized in this fashion, the Commission became a pawn of those determined to undermine an independent judiciary.

Very truly yours,

HALLING & CAYO, S.C.

Kovenner aci

Stacie H. Rosenzweig on behalf of Justice Jill Karofsky

Encl.