



STATE OF WISCONSIN – JUDICIAL COUNCIL

AMENDED JANUARY 16, 2026 AGENDA

WISCONSIN JUDICIAL COUNCIL
FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 2026 – 9:30 A.M.
WISCONSIN STATE CAPITOL
ROOM 328NW
MADISON, WISCONSIN

**Members wishing to join by telephone should call:
(339) 209-6255 at 9:30 a.m. on 1/16/26. There is no Access Code.**

- 1) Roll Call and reapproval the Minutes of the Council’s 8/12/25 Meeting, as well as approval of the action taken at the 12/9/25 Special Council Meeting.
- 2) We will first address Vice Chair Kirschner’s issue concerning whether there should be interpreters in Municipal Court. After a discussion, I will entertain a vote as to whether a Special Committee should be created to address this issue. If the vote is in the affirmative, I will entertain a discussion about the composition of such a committee and reserve the right to name that Committee during our meeting.
- 3) The meeting on January 16, 2026 will be very special. Most importantly, it will be first chance for most members of the Council to meet our new Staff Lawyer, Attorney Natalie Zibolski. It will also be an opportunity to welcome two other new members to the Council, Dane County Judge Ryan Nilsestuen and Eau Claire County Judge Beverly Wickstrom.

This is such a special meeting that I do not anticipate completing much in the way of business. After introducing our new Judges, and hearing opening remarks from them, I intend to turn the floor over to Ms. Zibolski for remarks by her. You should know that members of the Executive Committee will be having lunch with Ms. Zibolski early next week, at which time I will turn over a memory disk containing eight years of files (5,000 docs) that I have generated while serving as Chair and Acting Secretary of the Council beginning in 2017. I want the Standing Committee Chairs to understand that my files will include only general Council files. I would ask our Standing Committee Chairs to provide memory disks containing files they deem important to the work of Ms. Zibolski.

While I expect Natalie to take on more and more responsibility as we move forward, I have given her my pledge that I will continue to do all in my power to make her first year as successful as possible. While I am 79 years of age, I still have over one year left on my appointment by Governor Evers, and I plan to do all I can to have

her back during her new assignment. That means in part that I will handle all preparations for and chair the conduct of our annual June awards meeting in the Senate Chamber and that I will assist Natalie with any chores necessary for her success. I hope everyone will help make Natalie's new job a success!!

Because of the unique nature of this 1/16/26 meeting and the confidentiality of many meetings we have held since the hunt began for a Staff Lawyer, I will be asking the Council to vote to reapprove the accompanying Minutes of our August 12, 2025 meeting (where our search for a Staff Lawyer really began). In addition, I will be asking the Council to approve the action of the December 9, 2025 Special Meeting of the Council, which enabled us to select Ms. Zibolski as our new Staff Lawyer.

4) Adjournment.

This Agenda was prepared by Attorney Gleisner.

PUBLIC NOTICE

All meetings of the Judicial Council and its committees are open to the public. The Council's January 16, 2026 Council meeting will only take place in person in Room 328NW of the Capitol Building. There will be no Zoom access to this meeting. Subject to limits imposed by the size of Room 328NW, members of the public are welcome. However, if any member of the public disrupts the meeting in any way, security will be called, and the disrupting member will be asked to leave. For more information, please contact the Chair of the Judicial Council, Mr. Gleisner, at 414-651-3182 or gleisnerwilliam@gmail.com.