SUPREME COURT OF WISCONSIN

IN RE THE MATTER OF WAIVER OF IN-PERSON ATTENDANCE FOR STATE BAR OF WISCONSIN BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETINGS AND ANNUAL MEETING REQUIREMENT

FILED

MAY 15, 2020

Sheila T. Reiff
Clerk of Supreme Court
Madison, WI

On May 12, 2020, the President and the Chair of the Board of Governors of the State Bar of Wisconsin requested the court authorize the temporary waiver of Supreme Court Rule (SCR) 10.07 (Meetings of the association) and State Bar of Wisconsin Bylaws Article III, Section 11(a) and (b) and Section 13(b) due to circumstances caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. These sections relate to the annual meeting of the members, meetings associated with the annual meeting, and in-person voting requirements for regular meetings of the Board of Governors.

The State Bar has determined that the annual conference scheduled for June 2020 should be cancelled due to safety and health concerns. The State Bar holds its annual meeting, as required under SCR 10.07, as well as its final general meeting of the Board of Governors, concurrently with that conference. The State Bar leadership requests this court temporarily waive the requirements related to these meeting requirements. The State Bar advises the court that it intends to hold one final regular meeting of the Board of Governors in June 2020 via remote technology. However, in order to conduct business, the in-person voting requirement must also be temporarily waived. Accordingly, the State Bar requests this court issue an order waiving these requirements pursuant to its authority over the State Bar of Wisconsin, SCR Chapter 10, and its inherent authority over the legal profession in this state. Wis. Const. Art. VII, §3; In re Kading, 70 Wis. 2d 508, 519-20; 235 N.W.2d 409 (1976). Therefore,

IT IS ORDERED that the request of the State Bar of Wisconsin President and the Chair of the Board of Governors is granted, and requirements for an annual meeting of the members, requirements associated with that annual meeting and requirements for in-person voting at regular meetings of the Board of Governors are waived for the remaining fiscal year to end on June 30, 2020; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the State Bar of Wisconsin shall take all reasonable steps to notify its members of the contents of this order.