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SOUTH CENTRAL FEDERATION OF LABOR ENDORSES JUDGE MARILYN TOWNSEND

MADISON, WI –The South Central Federation of Labor has endorsed Judge Marilyn Townsend for Dane County Circuit Court, Branch 12. The South Central Federation of Labor is an umbrella organization consisting of almost 100 labor unions representing tens of thousands of workers in South Central Wisconsin.

“I am honored to receive the endorsement of the South Central Federation of Labor,” said Judge Marilyn Townsend. “I began my career fighting alongside the United Mine Workers of America as a labor union attorney, standing against the injustices, inequalities and the dangerous conditions that employees suffered. That work motivated me to concentrate on standing up for all working families and that’s what I’ve been doing as an attorney in Dane County my entire career.”

“I am proud of the work that I have done as a union and civil rights lawyer, and as a Municipal Court Judge.” said Marilyn. “I’ve kept the scales of justice balanced in my courtroom, a place of impartiality for all who have their day in court. I will instill those same principles as the next Dane County Circuit Court Judge.”

The South Central Federation of Labor joins the Sheet Metal Workers Local 565, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 2304, and the United Steelworkers District 2 in endorsing Judge Townsend for Dane County Circuit Court.

Background

Judge Marilyn Townsend has devoted her life to fighting on the behalf of working men and women. During law school, she worked as a law clerk for the International Union of Electrical Workers. Following law school, Judge Townsend joined the United Mine Workers of America as a labor attorney and focused on protecting the rights of workers and keeping them safe in the workplace. She appeared in Courts throughout the United States.

Since returning to Wisconsin in 1987, Judge Townsend has continued her work as a labor and employment attorney. From her law office in Madison, Wisconsin, she has stood up to corporations and government agencies to ensure that her clients are heard and the scales of justice are balanced. She recently appeared in the Wisconsin Supreme Court and challenged a government agency's interpretation of a new law that would deny unemployment benefits to hardworking, conscientious workers.

In 2012, Marilyn was elected Judge to the Village of Shorewood Hills Municipal Court and is currently serving her third term. Many of the cases involve the same type of issues that she would address as a Circuit Court judge including the constitutionality of search and seizures and cases involving operating vehicles while intoxicated, theft and possession of drugs and drug paraphernalia. As Judge, she observes the same principles she expects when she is trying a case - that there are no predispositions for or against and the scales of justice are balanced – the same principles our next Dane County Judge must execute.

She is married to attorney Fred Wade, and they have three children, Jonathan, Benjamin and Katherine who graduated from West High School, in Madison.

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