#### Office of Governor Scott Walker

Attn: Chief Legal Counsel

It is once again my pleasure to recommend Judge James R. Troupis for appointment to the Wisconsin Supreme Court. I have known Jim for over twenty years. As a former COO of The Black Bros. Co., a manufacturing company in northern Illinois, Jim and I worked together on various legal issues that threaten the very existence of small manufacturers across the U.S.A. Along the way, we become personal friends.

Professionally, I find Jim to be intelligent, conscientious, and a hard worker. He has a great legal mind, listens well and has the ability to communicate calmly and courteously. He demonstrates the highest personal standard of ethical conduct and has the courage and integrity to "do the right thing".

Personally, I find Jim to be fair, impartial and independent. His knowledge is extensive. He has great insight into human nature and is curious about the world around him. He is driven by an innate competitive spirit.

It is a pleasure to have worked with Jim and to count him as a friend. It is hard to imagine someone who would be a greater asset to the Wisconsin Supreme Court.

I respect that you have a difficult and important decision to make. I wish you the very best. Should you have any questions feel free to contact me.

Robert F. Stachlewitz Jr.

Pobers J. Hackberry L.

1707 Lakewood Dr.

Mendota, IL 61342

815-830-8190

From:

Michael S. Anderson < MAnderson@axley.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, May 03, 2016 11:08 AM

To:

**GOV Judicial Appointments** 

Subject:

Recommendation for Judge Troupis—Supreme Court Application

Office of the Governor Attn: Chief Legal Counsel

I unsuccessfully attempted to recruit Jim Troupis to Axley Brynelson when he moved to town in 1987. I was favorably impressed with his abilities and qualifications then, and the intervening years have only increased my respect for his skills as a lawyer, his qualities as a person, and more recently his temperament and diligence as a Judge.

Jim is smart, hard-working, skilled, experienced in trying complex cases, and well-liked by his peers. As a litigator, Jim had a reputation as a lawyer who was well-prepared, who advocated forcefully, and who was able to get along with his opponents. It may be his Greek heritage but, whatever it is, Jim genuinely likes people.

Jim is also a well-rounded person with a life outside the law. Jim and Karen have been married for more than 40 years and they are still best friends. He is a proud father and a doting grandfather. And he loves fishing.

Jim has a passion for justice and for the rule of law. His appointment will anger some political liberals who will remember his aggressive representation of conservative politicians and issues. But his judging will also frustrate political conservatives when he enforces laws that they do not like. Justice Troupis will let the legislature make the laws, whether he agrees with them or not. Everyone who understands the importance of the separation of powers will welcome Judge Troupis to our highest court.

James Troupis has my unqualified support, and I commend him to your consideration for this most important position.

--Mike Anderson

## MICHAEL S. ANDERSON

**ATTORNEY** 

Phone: 608.283.6708 | Mobile: 608.444.5318

Email: MAnderson@axley.com | http://www.axley.com

Axley Brynelson, LLP | 2 E. Mifflin St. Ste 200 | Madison, WI 53703



ANDREW J.CLARKOWSKI aclarkowski@axtey.com 608.283.6705 MICHAEL J. MODL mmodl@axtey.com 608.283.6720

May 3, 2016

#### VIA EMAIL

govjudicialappointments@wisconsin.gov

Office of the Governor Attn: Chief Legal Counsel 115 E. State Capitol Madison, WI 53702

Re: Nomination of James Troupis to the Wisconsin Supreme Court

Dear Governor Walker:

We are writing in support of the nomination of James Troupis to the Wisconsin Supreme Court. Each of the undersigned had the privilege to serve with Attorney Troupis for many years on the board of the Western District (Federal) Court Bar Association, for which we all served as President. Attorney Troupis's legal record and accomplishments speak for themselves, but his public service is notable as well. Attorney Troupis's commendable and long-standing efforts to promote the Bar, its members, and to assist the Court are exactly the type of public service that should be recognized. This State would be well-served by having public-minded members of the Supreme Court.

Sincerely,

AXLEY BRY<del>NE</del>LSON, LLP

Andrew J. Clarkowski

AJC/eed

Michael J. Modl MJM/lmn

F:\EAFDATA\9086\45556\01947844.DOCX



Charles V. "Buck" Sweency (608) 283-6743 csweency@axley.com

. . . . . .

May 3, 2016

SENT VIA E-MAIL

Governor Scott Walker

RE: In Support of James Troupis for Supreme Court Justice

Dear Governor Walker:

The purpose of this communication is to make my full and heartfelt recommendation to appoint James Troupis as the next Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice.

I practiced law with James Troupis for almost 20 years at Michael Best & Friedrich and found him to be an exceptional trial attorney. As you know, you appointed him to be a Dane County Circuit Court Judge and he has done an exceptional job in that role.

James' intellect, fairness and respect for the judicial system will make him one of the best Supreme Court Justices the State has known.

Jim knows how to take complex issues and simplify them and also bring comradery to the Court. I highly recommend you appoint James Troupis as the next Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice.

Sincerely,

AXLEY BRYNELSON, LLP

Charles V. Sweeney

CVS: crf

cc: Jim Troupis



J. MICHAEL RILEY Direct Dial; 608.283.6778 Email: mriley@axley.com

May 4, 2016

VIA EMAIL (govjudicialappointments@wisconsin.gov)

Office of Governor Scott Walker ATTN: Chief Legal Counsel 115 East Capitol Madison, WI 53702

RE: Supreme Court Judicial Appointment

#### Chief Legal Counsel:

I am writing to respectfully request that you consider appointing Judge James Troupis to the upcoming Supreme Court vacancy. My practice is focused on representing plaintiffs in personal injury cases. I have had the pleasure of appearing before Judge Troupis on a number of occasions since his appointment to the bench. He has always taken a fair, well-reasoned approach to matters. That coupled with his private practice experience indicate to me that he would be a fair and balanced addition to the Court.

Best regards,

AXLEY BRYNELSON, LLP

richaei 10751a

From: Mel and Kristie Pope <mkpope2@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, May 04, 2016 9:58 PM

To: GOV Judicial Appointments

Subject: Recommendation for Judge Jim Troupis for Wisconsin Supreme Court

#### To Whom It May Concern,

I have known Judge Troupis for a number of years, and highly recommend that he be appointed to the State Supreme Court. I have lived in Wisconsin my entire life (70+ years), raised my family and have run a small business here. I have had many discussions with Judge Troupis concerning the legal system in both the state and the country at large. I am impressed by his remarkable knowledge of both.

I am not an attorney, I am simply a concerned citizen. It seems that the legal system has been used inappropriately by some to try to legislate from the bench, and in some cases laws have not been enforced in order to promote political viewpoints. Judge Troupis is a strong believer in interpreting the constitution as the framers envisioned it, and not to change it by current political beliefs. As a citizen, it would be comforting to know that Judge Troupis would be adjudicating based on case law and the constitution versus a "political belief". In my opinion the majority of our citizens would also appreciate his judicial approach as well.

I highly recommend that Judge Jim Troupis to be appointed to the Wisconsin Supreme Court.

Mel Pope Middleton, WI



May 5, 2016

Office of the Governor Scott Walker Attn: Chief Legal Counsel 115 E. State Capitol Madison, WI 5370w

Re: Application of James R. Troupis to replace Justice Prosser on the Wisconsin Supreme Court.

Dear Governor Walker,

I am writing to strongly support the application of Mr. James Troupis to be appointed as a member of the Wisconsin Supreme Court replacing Justice David Prosser. I have known Jim for over twenty-four years. For about twenty years, Jim handled almost all of the litigation work for Promega Corporation where I am employed as V.P., and Chief Technical Officer. At Promega I have been responsible for advising outside counsel on all intellectual property litigation.

I have worked very closely with Jim on several cases involving IP litigation, contract law, a Qui Tam case, and anti-trust issues. Jim has also been a major contributor to our team in settling many of these cases. The dispute between Hoffman La-Roche and Promega was one of the major biotechnology disputes of the two last decades. It involved three cases in the US plus additional cases in Germany and Australia which took 13 years to resolve. Jim was the lead attorney in all of these cases and did an absolutely wonderful job in representing Promega and achieving a favorable outcome in all of them.

I have developed the utmost respect for Jim during the years I worked with him. I have particularly appreciated his honesty and ability to place business issues or business disputes in a correct context with regard to the applicable law. This has been true not only under US law but also in helping us understand the differing statutes and legal systems used by foreign countries in which we do business. He has been a great advocate for us but has also been forthright in identifying the strengths, weaknesses, and risks in our legal position. The depth of Jim's understanding of various aspects of the law as well as his ability to translate legal issues to technical and business personnel has been a critical aspect of the success of our business.

I have also come to appreciate Jim's understanding of courtroom dynamics and his ability to illuminate critical aspects of a case for the judge or jury. During a month long trial in California I was amazed at Jim's ability to keep the big picture of a very complex case in focus at all times. He is also amazing in his ability to cross-examine extremely difficult witnesses. I am sure these types of experience and skills are

critical in a judge's need to sort through the variety of facts and presentations that he must navigate every day in coming to a just conclusion.

While I have no experience in criminal proceedings, I have had the opportunity either as a client representative or as a witness to observe a number of federal judges involved in a range of complex biotechnology related cases. With a single exception I have been amazed at their intelligence, ability to focus on the case at hand, and their dedication to the US legal system. When comparing Jim's abilities to all the federal judges I have observed, I am confident that he will match or exceed the performance of the best judges I have seen.

I have never met an attorney that was more dedicated to the US philosophy of jurisprudence. He always seeks to understand not only the legal precedents of an issue but also the intent of the statutes or common law principles involved. He has an incredible ability to then explain these issues to clients that have no legal background themselves.

In summary, I have the highest regard for Jim's integrity, honesty, and intellectual abilities. I believe that judges play a very difficult and absolutely critical role in our society. There is no one that I feel is better prepared to serve the State of Wisconsin in this regard than Jim Troupis.

Feel free to contact me directly if I can address other issues that would be helpful in your deliberations.

With best regards,

Randall L. Dimond, Ph.D.

handly Lemms

Vice-President, Chief Technical Officer

**Promega Corporation** 

(608)277-2517

From:

Fr. Bart < Fr. Bart@stamadison.org>

Sent:

Friday, May 06, 2016 2:36 PM

To:

**GOV Judicial Appointments** 

Subject:

Recommendation Letter for Judge James Troupis

Dear Governor Walker,

I am honored to be writing to you today to highly recommend a great citizen of Wisconsin and a great human being to the Wisconsin Supreme Court. With highest recommendations, I would like to recommend Judge James Troupis. As his pastor, I hope to offer a unique perspective in recommending him. I'm sure his education and career speak to his qualifications for this position and his colleagues can attest to his acumen as a judge, I would like to offer an additional perspective.

My name is Fr. Bart Timmerman, and I am pastor of St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church here in Madison. We have met face to face only once at a Badger Football Tailgate Party at your home, which was a great honor for me. I have also had the honor of voting for you twice as our Governor of Wisconsin. I was also blessed to have been present in Waukesha the exciting night you announced your candidacy for the President of the United States. I feel you and your family are a great inspiration, and I hold you all in the highest regard. I think I may have mentioned to you that I do pray for you and your family every day. I know being our Governor is not easy!

Soon after I became pastor of St. Thomas Aquinas in 2013, one of the first families I was able to get to know was Judge Troupis and his wife Karen. Their daughter, Sarah, was being married so I was able to celebrate this event with their family. Since then, I have had the blessing of baptizing their grandson, Jaidon. During my time getting to know them, I have seen what a beautiful family they have and how much they love one another. Recently Judge Troupis' mother passed away and he was by her side praying her into heaven. They have strong family values and are very positive people. I have seen them at very tender moments in their family life and there is so much love and respect for each family member. You cannot help but enjoy their company, they really make you feel like part of their family.

As pastor, I have also seen firsthand Judge Troupis' generosity with others. He is always willing to offer his expertise, knowledge, and advice. He has shown me much understanding and support.

All of these personal attributes which make Judge Troupis a wonderful son, husband, father, and friend, are also attributes that make him the most excellent candidate for the State Supreme Court. He is a man character, honesty, and trustworthiness in addition to being an excellent judge. Especially in this time of such division in the political realm, his demeanor and values can be recognized and appreciated by all who know him and work with him, regardless of political ideology.

Thank you for taking the time to consider Judge Troupis for the State Supreme Court. If you have any questions, please give me a call: (608) 345-3598. You are in my prayers as you make your deliberations.

Sincerely, Fr. Bart Timmerman Pastor, St. Thomas Aquinas

From:

Ross Brown <rbrown1984@gmail.com>

Sent:

Thursday, May 05, 2016 4:40 PM

To:

**GOV Judicial Appointments** 

Subject:

Recommendation for Judge Jim Troupis

#### To Whom It May Concern,

It has come to my attention that Judge Jim Troupis is being considered to fill the Wisconsin Supreme Court vacancy following the announcement of Justice Prosser's retirement. I am writing this letter of recommendation for Judge Troupis in order to express my *strongest* support for his appointment to the position.

#### Verify The Recall

I worked closely with Judge Troupis in 2011 and 2012 when I served as President of *We the People of the Republic*, a 501(c)4 organization based in Dane County, Wisconsin, which co-organized a project called *Verify The Recall* (VTR). Following the Government Accountability Board's (GAB) announcement that it would not verify the legitimacy of recall signatures gathered against Governor Scott Walker and numerous other elected officials, VTR was launched in an effort to uphold the integrity of Wisconsin's recall processes. After enlisting over 17,000 grassroots volunteers (10,000+ of whom were from Wisconsin) to assist with data entry into VTR's database, VTR analyzed recall data, submitted its findings to the GAB, and ultimately agreed that recalls of Governor Walker and other elected officials should proceed in accordance to the rule of law.

Judge Troupis voluntarily served as VTR's attorney throughout the course of the project. He represented VTR before the GAB, advised VTR on legal matters, drafted legal documents for VTR, and encouraged VTR to continue our important work. Judge Troupis' efforts and support was critical for VTR's success.

Despite some organizations' efforts to cast VTR as an "anti-recall" project, such was not the case: While the vast majority of VTR's 10,000+ Wisconsin volunteers were likely Scott Walker supporters, VTR neither supported nor discouraged the recalls. The project's only mission was to uphold the integrity of the process.

Judge Troupis likewise maintained such impartiality towards the recalls when representing VTR. He beautifully demonstrated his ability to set personal opinions aside in the interest of upholding the rule of law. If appointed to the Wisconsin Supreme Court, I fully anticipate that Judge Troupis would uphold the rule of law with integrity and impartiality because I have personally witnessed his *passionate* interest in doing so.

#### The Do Your Thing Podcast

I have enjoyed additional opportunities to engage with Judge Troupis in 2016, as he has been a frequent guest on *The Do Your Thing Podcast* - a weekly show (which I host) presented by *Living The Pursuit*. Judge Troupis has educated podcast listeners about the subject of liberty in extraordinary ways. Judge Troupis understands that we Americans are continuing an experiment called freedom started by the Greeks over 2,500 years ago, and he's clearly committed to ensuring the continuation of that wonderful experiment in our time.

For these reasons, I enthusiastically write this letter of recommendation in strongest terms for Judge Jim Troupis' appointment to the Wisconsin Supreme Court.

Sincerely,

Ross Brown 934 Jenna Drive Verona, WI 53593

President, We the People of the Republic, 2009-2014 Organizer, Verify The Recall, 2011-2012 President, Living The Pursuit, 2015-Present Host, The Do Your Thing Podcast, 2016-Present



1440 Broadway, Suite 510, Oakland, California 94612 • Tel 510.788.8781 • Fax 510.788.8786

May 5, 2016

To whom it may concern:

I write to recommend James Troupis for the current opening on the Wisconsin Supreme Court. I have worked with Jim on legal matters since 1993 and know Jim well.

First and foremost, Jim is an extremely hard worker with high standards for concise legal writing. This will serve him well in an appellate position where opinion writing is the majority of the workload. He is a good legal thinker who has been exposed to virtually all areas of law. He has litigated many types of cases and is able to navigate the intricate rules and regulations. He is also an articulate speaker.

Importantly, Jim is a good listener. He has the ability to communicate with counsel, jurors, witnesses and parties calmly and courteously, with the willingness to listen to and consider what is said on all sides of a debatable proposition. He will probe an area with good questions and do the legal research needed to handle novel theories.

Finally, Jim has the greatest respect for the law. He understands that a judge must be fair and use common sense. He understands he must make informed decisions that will stand up to close scrutiny.

I am confident that James Troupis will be an excellent addition to the Wisconsin Supreme Court.

Sincerely

Peter G. Carroll, Ph.D., J.D.

Patent, Trademark and Copyright Attorneys

From:

Sister Georgeann <srgr@chorus.net>

Sent: To: Sunday, May 08, 2016 9:26 PM GOV Judicial Appointments

Subject:

Recommendation: Judge James Troupis

**Attachments:** 

srgr.vcf

Judge James Troupis informed me of his desire to serve on the Wisconsin Supreme Court. I am writing this letter of recommendation, for him to be considered to fill the vacant position left by the retirement of Justice Prosser. I have known Judge Troupis professionally and personally for over 20 years when he and his wife, Karen and their children moved to Madison. I continue to be impressed by him for the following qualities he possesses and uses in his profession as well as embraces in his personal life:

- ability to be objective, impartial and fair amidst heated and sometimes perverse situations
- · talent to see and hear beyond words uttered and signs displayed and bring clarity to the issue
- passion and dedication to accept each person with openness and empathy and treat each one with respect and dignity
- use of authority and power to uphold what is true, right, just and lawful
- knowledge of the Constitution, by-laws, rights and legal matters on which judgments are made and his willingness to serve our state
- work ethic that leaves nothing unturned or incomplete
- demeanor that is approachable and humble and attracts others to seek for advise and request help and support
- balance between work and play; seriousness and humor

These are only a few of the qualities that I observe in Judge Troupis that I feel make him a strong candidate for the position of Justice on the Supreme Court. I highly recommend him to you; to appoint him as our next Justice. I feel that this appointment is very important for Wisconsin to continue to be a state that is upholding the ethical and moral rights and obligations of its citizens. Governor Walker, you witness to us of your commitment and you take a firm stand when necessary. Judge Troupis witnesses to us by his life, his practice and his willingness to speak; that he has deep values and convictions and would uphold the oath taken by a Justice if he appointed. He is a team player and would add strength and integrity to the Supreme Court. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sister Georgeann Roudebush, CSA

Board Certified Chaplain

Home Health United Hospice



#### 1112 7TH AVENUE • MONROE, WI 53566-1364 ColonyBrands.com

May 9, 2016

Office of Governor Scott Walker
Attn: Chief Legal Counsel
115 East State Capitol
Madison, WI 53702
[Sent via Email to: govjudicialappointments@wisconsin.gov]

[Selfe via Ellian to: Bov]adicialappointments@wisconsiniBov]

Re: Recommendation for Judge Troupis as a Justice to the Supreme Court of Wisconsin

This letter serves as my personal and professional recommendation that Judge James ("Jim") Troupis be appointed to serve as a Justice of the Wisconsin Supreme Court to fill the vacancy that will occur upon the retirement of Justice Prosser.

I have been practicing law since 1977. During that time, I have been licensed to practice in three states and before many courts, served as a partner in both large and small law firms, and gained extensive experience as a litigator and a corporate lawyer. As Vice President and General Counsel of Colony Brands, Inc. (f/k/a The Swiss Colony, Inc.) based in Monroe, Wisconsin for the past ten years, I had the opportunity to work with Jim Troupis in a professional capacity while he was a partner at Michael Best & Friedrich and later at his own law firm. I also have had the opportunity to know him and his wife Karen on a social basis.

Judge Troupis is an accomplished trial lawyer and legal counselor with a sharp legal mind and vast background in many areas of the law. Unlike many practicing attorneys, he also has extensive knowledge of Constitutional law. Judge Troupis exhibits the great personal traits of honesty, integrity and fairness that are essential to any judge or justice. I am sure you have his detailed biography and resume, so I will not repeat his many legal and professional accomplishments as a lawyer, advocate, volunteer, and most recently as a Circuit Court Judge in Dane County. While a lawyer is duty bound to represent his or her client's position, in addition to having legal skills, a judge or justice must have the positive personal traits, appropriate demeanor and understanding of the proper role of the court within our Constitutional framework to reach a correct and fair judgment after applying the law to the facts of the case. I believe Judge Troupis has all those attributes and is highly qualified to serve as a Justice on the Wisconsin Supreme Court. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully yours,

) Myry Adenlas Jeffrey R. Surlas

From:

Todd Osborne <toddosborne@gmail.com>

Sent:

Monday, May 09, 2016 10:07 AM

To:

**GOV Judicial Appointments** 

Subject:

James Troupis for Wisconsin State Supreme Court

Dear Governor Walker,

As a long time supporter of yours, and friends with Jim Troupis, I highly recommend him for appointment to the state Supreme Court. Jim has spent his life not only practicing law, the educating people on the law, history, and constitutional principles. I have atteneded many meetings and forums where Jim was the guest speaker, and he always struck me a fantastic person, highly educated, professional, and sincere. After I got to know him and his wife better, that just solidified my initial thoughts. Jim would make an excellent replacement for Justice Prosser and I hope you are seriously considering him for this appointment.

Todd Osborne toddosborne@gmail.com



May 9, 2016

#### **MAYOR**

Steven V. Ponto

2000 North Calhoun Road Brookfield, Wisconsin 53005-5095 (262) 787-3525 - FAX (262) 796-6671 ponto@ci.brookfield.wi.us

Governor Scott Walker Room 115 East, State Capitol P.O. Box 7863 Madison, WI 53707-7863

RE: Rec'd for Judge Troupis - Supreme Court Application

Dear Governor Walker:

I am writing to recommend that you appoint James R. Troupis to the Wisconsin Supreme Court vacancy created by the resignation of Justice David Prosser.

I have known Jim Troupis for at least 25 years. He has an excellent education, having earned both his B.A. degree and his J.D. degree from Northwestern University. While in law school at Northwestern, Jim was Editor-In-Chief of the Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology and graduated with honors.

Jim has extensive experience practicing law with Michael Best & Friedrich and with his own law firm, Troupis Law Office. He has handled many important litigation cases with great skill and professionalism. While practicing with Michael Best, he served as Chairperson of the Litigation Group both for the Madison Office and Firm-wide. He has also gained valuable experience by serving as a Dane County Circuit Judge.

I know Jim to be a strong conservative who appreciates the proper role of the judiciary. Jim has the stature in the legal community to be a highly respected choice for Supreme Court Justice. His addition to the Wisconsin Supreme Court would, I believe, serve to improve the functioning of that body.

I urge that you favorably consider appointing Jim Troupis as a Justice of the Wisconsin Supreme Court.

Best wishes.

Very truly yours,

Steven V. Ponto

Mayor



Michael Best & Friedrich LLP Attorneys at Law

100 East Wisconsin Avenue Suite 3300 Milwaukee, WI 53202-4108 Phone 414.271.6560 Fax 414.277.0656

Miriam S. Fleming Direct 414.223.2528 Email msfleming@michaelbest.com

May 11, 2016

VIA EMAIL: govjudicialappointments@wisconsin.gov

Office of Governor Scott Walker ATTN: Chief Legal Counsel 115 East Capitol Madison, WI 53702

Re: Recommendation for Judge Troupis – Supreme Court Application

Dear Governor Walker:

It is my great pleasure to add my sincere recommendation in support of Judge James Troupis for appointment as Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice to what I am sure is a strong chorus. I have had the fortune to know Jim Troupis as a trusted friend for over twenty years. It has been my even greater fortune as a partner at Michael Best & Friedrich to work with Jim as colleagues in the practice of law.

Jim has a keen legal mind. His store of knowledge of legal precedent is uncanny. His ability to analyze and apply that knowledge in both traditional and entirely new ways has made him a great advocate. He is exceptionally skilled at not only understanding complex issues, but in being able to explain those issues so that they are understandable to others. This is due in no small part to his writing prowess which is unmatched by most in the legal field. Jim is a wonderful person with whom to work. He respects and supports his colleagues, getting along with all regardless of their disparate backgrounds, belief systems or viewpoints.

While all of these skills most certainly are vital to his fitness to serve on the Wisconsin Supreme Court, perhaps most importantly, Jim has always displayed the utmost integrity, honesty and professionalism. He has a fundamental sense of fairness and equity that guides his conduct. That is not to say that Jim shies away from a debate. He has always encouraged, no, truly required, his team to question his view point; and, Jim is open and willing to adopt different ideas, solutions and conclusions and to challenge the status quo. Regardless, Jim has acted in all respects within and in accordance with the law. In other words, Jim's ethical compass, both personally and legally, does not waiver.

# MICHAEL BEST

Page 2

I have no doubts whatsoever that the State of Wisconsin would be truly privileged to have Jim Troupis serve on our highest court.

Sincerely,

Muriam S. Fleming

Miriam S. Fleming

(pc)

MSF:jc

From: Scott McCallum <scottmccallum57@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, May 05, 2016 9:49 AM

**To:** GOV Judicial Appointments **Subject:** Supreme Court Appointment

Dear Governor Walker,

I have known Jim Troupis for more than 20 years. He is unquestionably committed to the Constitutional principles that define us and make our State and our Country great. While many attorneys and judges can "say" they support our founding principles, Jim's lifelong history in Wisconsin and around the country have demonstrated that commitment time and time again. I, and so many others, were pleased that you appointed Jim to the Circuit Court, and I sincerely hope you will appoint him to replace Mr. Justice Prosser.

Of course, Jim's service to my administration as chairperson of the Governor's Advisory Council for Judicial Selection provided an invaluable service and resulted in some of the finest judges still serving throughout the State of Wisconsin. He later served as an adviser to the legislature in election law reform and has been an outspoken advocate of free speech, separation of powers and a host of critical legal issues. His success in the Courtroom is known, but many are unaware that he has been a trusted adviser to Legislative leaders, members of the Executive branch and has been chosen, repeatedly, to advise and represent members of our Supreme Court.

I also know that he is respected not only by Republicans and others who agree with his judicial philosophy, but by Democrats and those he has opposed as well. His integrity and intellect are second to none, and his long history of service is reflected in the respect he has garnered from friend and foe alike. Whatever one might say about the matters he has addressed or the parties he has represented, no one, to my knowledge, would ever suggest he is not eminently qualified to sit on our Supreme Court.

You would likely agree that Justice Prosser brought an intellectual capacity to the court that is needed. It will be recognized by most anyone that has worked with Troupis that he is a deep thinker, a very good legal scholar, who would serve Wisconsin well on the Supreme Court.

Jim has my wholehearted support for an appointment to the Wisconsin Supreme Court. I hope you will take this opportunity to appoint him.

Sincerely,

Scott McCallum

X Milan

## GODFREY#FKAHNs.c.

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www.GKLAW.COM

Direct: 608-284-2234 rlatta@gklaw.com

May 11, 2016

## VIA EMAIL govjudicialappointments@wisconsin.gov, WITH ORIGINAL BY REGULAR MAIL

Office of the Governor Attn: Chief Legal Counsel Ignatowski 115 East State Capitol Madison, WI 53702

RE: Recommendation of Judge James Troupis for Wisconsin Supreme Court

Dear Chief Legal Counsel Ignatowski:

Having worked with Judge Troupis as a colleague and partner for over 15 years, I whole-heartedly recommend Jim for the Supreme Court of Wisconsin.

Jim possesses the rare combination of attributes needed for a court of law such as our Supreme Court. First, his legal acumen and work ethic is extraordinary. I have seen this first hand as Jim's partner at Michael Best & Friedrich LLP working side by side with him on precedent setting legal issues. He has the unique ability to see the key legal issues, grasp the relevant facts and marshall them to achieve the appropriate result under the law. His ability as a trial lawyer has not only set legal precedents, it has also resulted in Jim winning some of the largest jury verdicts awarded in Wisconsin.

This ability was seen early in Jim's legal career. Upon graduation from Northwestern University School of Law, Jim was selected to clerk for the Illinois Supreme Court. From this experience, Jim came to appreciate the role of courts of law such as our Supreme Court and how its decisions impact not only the litigants before the Court, but also impact the rule of law for many decades to follow. And from knowing former Justices of our Supreme Court, I know Jim, if selected as a Justice of our Supreme Court, will carry out with thoughtfulness the role of our Supreme Court, which is to uphold the laws enacted by our Legislature and signed by the Governor. Jim sees a judge's role to interpret the laws as enacted by our Legislature and Governor, and not to legislate from the bench.

Second, Jim understands how laws impact all among us, whether in metropolitan or rural areas of our State. After having clerked for the Illinois Supreme Court, and having practiced law with a large Chicago law firm, Jim returned to his hometown of about 7,000 people to practice law with his father, who was a descendant of Greek immigrants and went to Harvard Law

Office of the Governor May 11, 2016 Page 2

School. Jim's practice in his hometown of about 7,000 included all aspects of law whether helping a farmer with legal matters or helping those who interacted with the criminal justice system. From his years of practicing law in a small town, Jim saw how the laws enacted in the Capitol have meaning on the Main Streets of the many small towns throughout Wisconsin.

Third, Jim understands how providing the opportunity of education to persons who have been limited by their circumstances is one of the greatest gifts we can make available to our young people. He understands how the opportunity of being in a great country such as the United States allows persons of all backgrounds to rise to whatever level their abilities permit them to achieve.

Jim lives this belief. I know one of Jim's proudest moments was the achievement of his son in being a founder of a high school in an area of need in Chicago and how one of the first graduating classes of the high school had 100% of the school's graduates matriculate to college. This occurred because by providing a quality high school education to those who may not have otherwise had an opportunity to receive one changes the life of not only the person who obtains the education, but it also improves the lives of their families and their community. As a result of Jim's background, he identifies with those who improve the circumstances for themselves and their community. And from his work with those in the criminal justice system, Jim understands and empathizes with those who haven't been given the opportunity of education and what this means to our society as a whole.

In addition to his practice of law in the private sector, Jim has served his State with distinction following his appointment to the Dane County Circuit Court. Jim has shown from the bench how he believes a judge's role is to interpret the laws of the State of Wisconsin, not to make law from the bench. Jim's strong intellect and sense of fair play have resulted in Jim having the respect of his fellow Circuit Court judges and the attorneys who appear before him for adjudication of matters. His service to the Circuit Court has been exemplary showing the thoughtfulness, integrity, due process and empathy that those who come before the Circuit Court seek and deserve as citizens of Wisconsin.

I strongly recommend Judge Troupis be appointed as a Justice to the Supreme Court of Wisconsin and will gladly provide further information that you or the committee may find of interest.

Very truly yours,

GODFREY & KAMIN, S.C

Richard A. Latta

RAL:kah

15615992.1

From:

Nancy Milholland <netwesme@att.net>

Sent:

Wednesday, May 11, 2016 5:48 PM

To:

**GOV Judicial Appointments** 

Subject:

Judge Jim Troupis

Good afternoon -

Please accept this brief note that shows my support for Judge Jim Troupis for appointment to the Wisconsin Supreme Court. I believe his ideas, values, and experience, highly qualify him to replace retiring Justice David Prosser. Thank you so much for your consideration.

Nancy Milholland Racine, WI 262-994-0894

From:

Richard Wood <rwoodsky@frontier.com>

Sent:

Wednesday, May 11, 2016 7:32 PM

To: Subject: GOV Judicial Appointments Supreme Court Judicial Appointment

Sirs:

I support the appointment of Jim Troupis to the Wisconsin Supreme Court. Judge Troupis is a person of sound judicial knowledge and judgements. Thank you for your consideration.

Richard Wood 1965 W Ridge Rd Cottage Grove WI, 53527

From:

cathi raemisch < cvrae@yahoo.com>

Sent:

Thursday, May 12, 2016 1:58 PM

To:

**GOV Judicial Appointments** 

Subject:

Wisconsin Supreme Court

Jim Troupis is a "Great American" my husband and I support Jim Troupis for the appointment to the Wisconsin Supreme Court.

Thank-you,

Cathi Raemisch

From:

Nancy Mistele <nmistele53@gmail.com>

Sent:

Thursday, May 12, 2016 5:46 PM

To:

**GOV Judicial Appointments** 

Subject:

Jim Troupis

To Whom it May Concern, I would like to express support for the appointment of Judge Jim Troupis to the Wisconsin Supreme Court." Jim has a long standing record of adherence to strict interpretation of the Constitution which is essential for our Supreme Court Justices.

Nancy Mistele

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From	٠
LICILI	٠

Terry Woodman < woodman.t.g@gmail.com>

Sent:

Friday, May 13, 2016 1:54 PM

To:

**GOV Judicial Appointments** 

Subject:

Judicial Appointment of Jim Troupis

To whom it may concern,

I would like to support Jim Troupis to fill the vacancy that will be left on the court upon Justice David Prosser's retirement. Mr. Troupis's knowledge of the Wisconsin and US Constitutions solidifies his position as a leader in Wisconsin.

Thank you for your consideration,

Terry Woodman

Madison, WI

From:

B Johnson < bjohnson257@charter.net>

Sent:

Monday, May 16, 2016 12:49 PM

To:

**GOV Judicial Appointments** 

Subject:

Wisconsin State Supreme Court Vacancy

Dear Governor Walker,

This is just a short email to urge you to appoint Dane County Judge James Troupis to the Wisconsin Supreme Court. I have heard Judge Troupis speak on many occasions in person and on the radio. He is a true constitutional conservative and an excellent replacement for Justice Prosser. He has experience both as a trial lawyer and judge and is ready for the next step. Living in progressive Dane County Judge Troupis is used to fighting against the tide of liberalism and will be able to handle any adversity that comes his way on the court.

Billie Johnson

Madison, WI

## GODFREY KAHNs.c.

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MADISON, WISCONSIN 53701-2719

TEL • 608.257.3911 FAX • 608.257.0609

www · GKLAW.COM

Direct: 608-284-2234 rlatta@gklaw.com

May 11, 2016

## VIA EMAIL govjudicialappointments@wisconsin.gov, WITH ORIGINAL BY REGULAR MAIL

Office of the Governor Attn: Chief Legal Counsel Ignatowski 115 East State Capitol Madison, WI 53702

RE: Recommendation of Judge James Troupis for Wisconsin Supreme Court

Dear Chief Legal Counsel Ignatowski:

Having worked with Judge Troupis as a colleague and partner for over 15 years, I whole-heartedly recommend Jim for the Supreme Court of Wisconsin.

Jim possesses the rare combination of attributes needed for a court of law such as our Supreme Court. First, his legal acumen and work ethic is extraordinary. I have seen this first hand as Jim's partner at Michael Best & Friedrich LLP working side by side with him on precedent setting legal issues. He has the unique ability to see the key legal issues, grasp the relevant facts and marshall them to achieve the appropriate result under the law. His ability as a trial lawyer has not only set legal precedents, it has also resulted in Jim winning some of the largest jury verdicts awarded in Wisconsin.

This ability was seen early in Jim's legal career. Upon graduation from Northwestern University School of Law, Jim was selected to clerk for the Illinois Supreme Court. From this experience, Jim came to appreciate the role of courts of law such as our Supreme Court and how its decisions impact not only the litigants before the Court, but also impact the rule of law for many decades to follow. And from knowing former Justices of our Supreme Court, I know Jim, if selected as a Justice of our Supreme Court, will carry out with thoughtfulness the role of our Supreme Court, which is to uphold the laws enacted by our Legislature and signed by the Governor. Jim sees a judge's role to interpret the laws as enacted by our Legislature and Governor, and not to legislate from the bench.

Second, Jim understands how laws impact all among us, whether in metropolitan or rural areas of our State. After having clerked for the Illinois Supreme Court, and having practiced law with a large Chicago law firm, Jim returned to his hometown of about 7,000 people to practice law with his father, who was a descendant of Greek immigrants and went to Harvard Law

Office of the Governor May 11, 2016 Page 2

School. Jim's practice in his hometown of about 7,000 included all aspects of law whether helping a farmer with legal matters or helping those who interacted with the criminal justice system. From his years of practicing law in a small town, Jim saw how the laws enacted in the Capitol have meaning on the Main Streets of the many small towns throughout Wisconsin.

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In addition to his practice of law in the private sector, Jim has served his State with distinction following his appointment to the Dane County Circuit Court. Jim has shown from the bench how he believes a judge's role is to interpret the laws of the State of Wisconsin, not to make law from the bench. Jim's strong intellect and sense of fair play have resulted in Jim having the respect of his fellow Circuit Court judges and the attorneys who appear before him for adjudication of matters. His service to the Circuit Court has been exemplary showing the thoughtfulness, integrity, due process and empathy that those who come before the Circuit Court seek and deserve as citizens of Wisconsin.

I strongly recommend Judge Troupis be appointed as a Justice to the Supreme Court of Wisconsin and will gladly provide further information that you or the committee may find of interest.

Very truly yours,

GODFREY & KAMN, S.C

Richard A. Latta

RAL:kah

15615992.1

From:

Pat Barry <patbarry@tds.net>

Sent:

Monday, May 30, 2016 4:28 PM

To:

**GOV Judicial Appointments** 

Subject:

Judge Jim Troupis

Dear Governor Walker,

I wanted to write to let you know I support Judge Jim Troupis for appointment to the Supreme Court. I have met the judge on several occasions and believe he would be an excellent choice.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Patrick Barry

Sent from my iPhone