JUDGE GABLEMAN SUPREME COURT

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Thank You!

Welcome!

Thank you for visiting our campaign web site. Here you'll be able to learn more about me, my track record and my philosophy. I'm a common sense judge who believes the Wisconsin Supreme Court deserves a justice who is guided by the law, not a particular politician or political party.

I'm a straightforward guy and this site will reflect that.

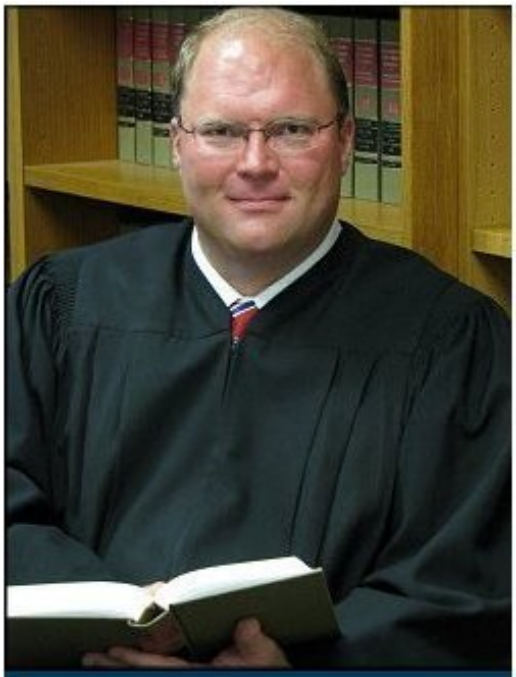
I appreciate your interest in this important race. I greatly value the input I receive from folks all over Wisconsin and I hope you'll feel comfortable enough to forward this site to your family, friends and colleagues. Common sense administration of the law is not a partisan issue. Whether you are a Democrat, Republican or Independent, your insights and support are welcome and appreciated.

At this crucial moment in Wisconsin's history, the stakes in this race are high. That's why your involvement is so important.

Thank you for visiting and I hope you will stop by again.

Sincerely,

Judge Michael Gableman



"Gableman took office in early September and immediately began instilling what many are calling a tougher stance on crime than in previous years."

- Burnett County Sentinel, Jan. 8, 2003

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Authorized and Paid for by Gableman for Supreme Court, James Zeiler, Treasurer

JUDGE GABLEMAN SUPREME COURT

Thank You!

Biography

Judge Michael Gableman has a distinguished and wide-ranging legal career serving as a Circuit Court Judge, District Attorney, Assistant District Attorney, Administrative Law Judge, Adjunct Professor of Law, Deputy Corporation Counsel and private practice attorney.

Judge Gableman was appointed Burnett County Circuit Court in 2002 and was overwhelmingly elected to the bench in 2003 with 78% of the vote. A law-and-order judge, he has been recognized for developing innovative programs which emphasize personal responsibility and maximize accountability. He led the establishment of ongoing Inmate Community Service and Restorative Justice Programs, and the Burnett County Drug and Alcohol Court over which he presides.

Judge Gableman is also active in the legal community serving on the Wisconsin Supreme Court's State Court/Tribal Court Relations Committee and is a past member of the Wisconsin Judicial Council.

Prior to his experience on the bench, Judge Gableman was appointed District Attorney for Ashland County (1999) by Governor Tommy G. Thompson and subsequently won election to the position. As District Attorney, he was the lead prosecutor on cases as diverse as arson, sexual assault, domestic violence, and white collar crimes. He also served as a front-line prosecutor in Marathon County (1997-1999) and Langlade County (1996-1997) as an Assistant District Attorney.

Judge Gableman's broad experience includes serving as Deputy Corporation Counsel of Forest County, and as a private attorney specializing in probate, real estate, and corporation law. As Deputy Counsel he successfully argued before the Wisconsin State Supreme Court in 1998.

Judge Gableman earned his Juris Doctorate from Hamline University School of Law in 1993, earning Dean's List honors. While attending law school he served as a Law Clerk for the United States Attorney's Office in Minneapolis, MN, where he helped prepare federal criminal cases for prosecution and defend the government's arguments on appeal. Upon graduation he served as a Law Clerk for judges in Douglas County, MN (1993-1995) and in Brown County, WI (1995-1996).

Judge Gableman was born in West Allis and was raised in Waukesha County. He is a graduate of New Berlin West High School and a Ripon College graduate (1988), where he earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Education and History. After undergraduate school, Judge Gableman followed through on a personal goal to mentor young people by teaching American History in the Milwaukee Public School System (1988-1989) before pursuing a legal career. He built on his commitment to education by teaching at Hamline University School of Law as Adjunct Professor of Law (2003-2005), and he frequently lectures on the dynamics of domestic violence.

Judge Gableman resides in Webster, and has been a member of a variety of community

service groups, including the Knights of Columbus (Past Grand Knight-Ashland Council), Masons, Fraternal Order of Moose, and Rotary International.

JUDGE GABLEMAN SUPREME COURT

Thank You!

Why I'm Running

JUDGE GABLEMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT TEXT

Good Morning everyone. I'm Circuit Court Judge Mike Gableman and I am here today to announce my candidacy for the Wisconsin Supreme Court.

Before addressing the pressing issues in this race, please allow me this moment to tell you a little about who I am and why I am running.

I was born in West Allis was raised in New Berlin and am the youngest of five siblings. I like to say they saved the best until last, but I'll never put it up for a vote to my parents or the nuns that taught me at Holy Apostles Grade school.

I am a graduate of New Berlin West High School and of Ripon College, where I earned a BA in Education and History. After undergraduate school, I followed through on a personal goal by teaching American History in the Milwaukee Public School System before pursuing my legal career. Then, a few years after graduation from Hamline University School of Law, I served there as Adjunct Professor of Law. I continue to lecture on the dynamics of domestic violence.

I love being a judge, but I also like to teach. I'm the son of teachers. My dad, Norb, sold furniture for much of his life but he started his professional career as a school teacher. And my mom, Mary, recently retired from teaching 5th grade after many years. I've always have had a soft spot in my heart for education. Educators help prepare our future leaders and provide the foundation for our future society.

It is with that same concern for our future that I today announce my candidacy for the Supreme Court. I believe the breadth and depth of my experiences have me well prepared to serve the people of Wisconsin as an honest, impartial Justice on the state's highest court.

I've served as a front-line prosecutor in Marathon and Langlade Counties as an Assistant District Attorney. In 1999, Governor Tommy Thompson appointed me District Attorney for Ashland County and I subsequently won election to that position. I've personally prosecuted a wide variety of offenses including sexual assault, white collar crime, domestic violence and crimes against children.

I was appointed Burnett County Circuit Court Judge in 2002 and was elected to the bench in 2003 with 78% of the vote.

I led the establishment of ongoing Inmate Community Service and Restorative Justice Programs, and the Burnett County Drug and Alcohol Court over which I preside. I'm proud of these innovative programs because they hold offenders accountable, while providing for community service and personal responsibility.

I'm also active in the legal community serving on the Wisconsin Supreme Court's State Court/Tribal

Court Relations Committee and am a past member of the Wisconsin Judicial Council.

My background includes time clerking for the United States Attorney's office, for judges in Douglas County Minnesota and up in Brown County. And I've been a private practice attorney specializing in probate, real estate, and corporate law. In short, I understand the many facets of the system and have worked my way up, learning and teaching along the way.

I am not a partisan ideologue, and I'm not a politician. I'm a judge who believes in the importance of an independent judiciary, beholden not to one party or one political leader, but to the law itself.

As I've detailed I bring a strong law enforcement background to the campaign for Supreme Court. That background as a prosecutor provides me with a perspective I believe would benefit the Court and stands in stark contrast to my opponent.

I know Justice Butler from when we attended new judge school together in 2002. Our philosophies and backgrounds are very different. I have more experience on the circuit court bench, and I am the only candidate in this race who has worked hard to hold criminals responsible and make them accountable for the consequences of their actions.

I'm fair, impartial and consistent. And my track record shows that I believe in personal responsibility and community service.

I am not running to become a lawmaker. Lawmaking should be left to the legislative and executive branches. I believe that justice comes from administering the law with an understanding that its source is the consent of the governed, not one's one personal ideology.

I believe the Court has an important, albeit distinct, role to play that is separate from the legislature and the Governor. I will not legislate from the bench. And whether we are talking about punitive damage awards, the constitutionality of sexual predator statutes, or a standard by which we determine the burden of proof for negligence, Wisconsin law enforcement and our citizens and business owners deserve and expect decisions from the Court that are fair and consistent. They'll get that fair and consistent approach from Justice Gableman. I'm my own guy. I'm running to be the people's justice, who is dedicated to and beholden to the law only.

Wisconsin deserves a fair, balanced and independent Supreme Court. My election would ensure fairness, balance and independence on the bench. The last time my opponent faced the voters, they rejected his philosophy. I believe, given the choice again, the results will be the same.

As I stand here today, launching a statewide effort, I'm reminded of my law school years when I worked at a concrete plant driving a truck during the summer between my first and second years of law school.

It was expected that the driver would pitch in if the site wasn't ready. In this case, the men were digging a large ditch and after grabbing a shovel I jumped into the trench. I soon was engaged in a conversation with a fellow employee who did this difficult work all the year round.

I disclosed to him that I was working my way through law school, and would soon be leaving to start my second year. After we finished the work, I was climbing out of the ditch, as I reached the top he called out "hey!" Somewhat startled by the abruptness of the shout, I turned back concerned that something was wrong. I'll always remember his words to me as I stood looking down. He said to me, "just don't forget the rest of us in the ditch when you finish law school."

Although that man probably forgot about me a long time ago he'd probably be very surprised to learn how often I think of him and his words.

I believe the court should also take those words to heart, because common sense administration of the law is not a class issue and it's not a partisan issue. Whether you are a Democrat, Republican or Independent, if you favor common sense and consistent administration of the law over judicial activism then I'm your candidate for Justice.

I anticipate and welcome the support of all of those committed to a fair, honest, independent Court, dedicated to the rule of law.

Thank you

JUDGE GABLEMAN SUPREME COURT

Thank You!

Campaign News

FOP: LAW ENFORCEMENT CAN "TRUST" JUDGE GABLEMAN
March 27, 2008

No One Here but Us Scalias
March 25, 2008

NRA Political Victory Fund and Wisconsin Rifle & Pistol Association Endorse Judge Gableman for Supreme Court
March 25, 2008

Sheriff Maury Straub on Judge Gableman versus Louis Butler
March 25, 2008

BUTLER DODGES DEBATES; SPINS FALSE RECORD
March 20, 2008

VFA Endorse Judge Gableman for State Supreme Court
Wisconsin Ag Connection, March 17, 2008

50 Police Chiefs Endorse Judge Gableman
March 13, 2008

Judge Gableman Campaigns Across Wisconsin
March 12, 2008

Former Supreme Court Justices Callow and Steinmetz Endorse Judge Gableman
March 11, 2008

Nearly Twice As Many DA Endorsements For Gableman As Butler
March 10, 2008

Board Members Question Bar Sponsorship of Campaign Committee
March 10, 2008

Supreme Court Candidates Debate
March 9, 2008

State Supreme Court Justice Candidates Fire Off At Negative Campaigning
March 9, 2008

Prosecutors say Judge Gableman Best Choice for Supreme Court
March 7, 2008

The GWC Smear Ad
March 6, 2008

52 Sheriffs Now Endorse Gableman
March 4, 2008

Gableman Campaign Issues Statement on GWC Attack Ad
February 29, 2008

Committee Emails Demonstrate Bias
February 20, 2008

Wisconsin Sheriffs and Deputy Sheriffs Association Endorses Law Enforcement's Choice – Judge Gableman
February 14, 2008

Wisconsin Sheriffs & Deputy Sheriffs Association PAC Endorses Judge Mike Gableman for Wisconsin Supreme Court
February 14, 2008

51 Sheriffs Now Endorse Judge Gableman
February 7, 2008

Municipalities Barred from Joining Lawsuit Over Gay Rights
February 7, 2008

Majority of District Attorneys Endorse "Law Enforcement's Choice for the Court" – Judge Mike Gableman
January 28, 2008

Congressmen Sensenbrenner, Petri, and Ryan Endorse Judge Gableman for Supreme Court
January 21, 2008

Improper Role for State Bar
Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel, January 18, 2008

Law Enforcement Leaders Continue to Line Up Behind Judge Gableman
January 16, 2008

More Police Chiefs Endorse Judge Gableman
January 9, 2008

Front-line Prosecutors, Sheriffs Endorse Judge Gableman
January 3, 2008

Burnett County Drug Court Graduation
Inter-County Leader, December 26, 2007

Law Enforcement Continues to Rally Around Judge Gableman
December 19, 2007

Votes and Record Critical to Court Race
December 11, 2007

Majority of Sheriffs Endorse Judge Gableman
December 6, 2007

Prosecutors Line Up in Support of Judge Gableman for Supreme Court
December 5, 2007

Police Chiefs From Around Wisconsin Give Green Light to Judge Gableman
November 28, 2007

Judge Gableman: Law Enforcement's Choice for the Supreme Court
November 13, 2007

Sheriffs Line Up Behind Judge Gableman
November 1, 2007

More District Attorneys Endorse Gableman for Supreme Court
October 30, 2007

District Attorneys Endorse Gableman for Supreme Court
October 25, 2007

Gableman Eyes State Supreme Court Seat
Inter-County Leader, October 3, 2007

Community Service a Win-Win Program
Burnett County Sentinel

JUDGE GABLEMAN SUPREME COURT

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Headlines

Never lie to a judge

Bradley R. Huser, 36, Webster, learns the hard way not to fib to Judge Gableman

by Craig Hansen

SIREN – It was almost the legal equivalent of telling a grade-school teacher, "the dog ate my homework."

Gableman hands down 24-year sentence

Clayton D. Phillips, 42, will spend at least 18 years in state prison

by Craig Hansen

SHELL LAKE – Citing the defendant's "total lack of insight into his own sexual deviancy," Judge Mike Gableman last Tuesday, acting as a substitute judge in Washburn County, sentenced a Spooner man to 24 years in the state

time to protect young children from further harm," Bitney argued to the court.

Judge Gableman concurred, characterizing Phillips' behavior as "grotesque and inhumane." Judge Gableman also noted that Phillips had gambled previously by turning down sex offender counseling during his Minnesota prison term, and that while Phillips showed remorse, he offered little insight into why he continues to "prey on children."

report the incidents of sexual assault to others.

Williams argued for a five-year prison term for his client, Phillips, but the request was rejected by Judge Gableman, who said a stiffer sentence was necessary.

Of the 24-year sentence ordered by Judge Gableman, under Wisconsin truth in sentencing guidelines, no less than 18 years will be spent in state prison, with no more than the remaining six years spent on extended supervised release. Additionally, Phillips was

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Judge sets aside plea agreement

Sentences Anthony A. Atkins Jr., 30, Webster, to 11 years, six months on child sex charges

by Craig Hansen

SIREN – Last Wednesday, at the sentencing hearing of Anthony A. Atkins Jr., 30, Webster, Judge Mike Gableman was faced with a difficult decision.

Under the terms of a plea agreement reached between District Attorney Ken Kutz and defense attorney John Schneider, Atkins, who was found guilty of one count of first-degree sexual assault of a child, a Schedule B felony, stemming from an incident on or around

nett County Jail after credit for time already served and focus mainly on sex offender treatment and probation.

Many judges would, as a matter of course, accept the terms of a plea agreement as presented to them. Yet with families of the victims present for the sentencing and the seriousness of the charges before him, Judge Gableman hesitated.

"If you accept this plea agreement," Atkins testified, "I'll be willing to do whatever it takes to abide by whatever terms you put into it."

Kutz also spoke in favor of the plea agreement, telling Judge Gableman, "If he (Atkins) is going to re-offend, it's going to happen fairly quickly and he'll be back in jail."

While some families present in the courtroom reacted to Kutz' statement as

Anthony A. Atkins Jr., 30, Webster, was sentenced to 11 years, six months in the state prison system last week after Judge Mike Gableman set aside a plea agreement that would

following the case.

"What I meant is that if Atkins has turned his life around, there will be no recurrence of this behavior, but if he hasn't, he'll be in trouble again fairly quickly," Kutz said. "What a lot of people don't realize is that at the end of his sentence,

Atkins to consider, an incident from about 10 years ago in Minnesota.

"Considering that one of the cases against you is failure to report your sex offender status when you came into the area," Judge Gableman told Atkins, "it seems to me there has been a failure here to take advantage of the opportunities already available to you in your prior conviction in Minnesota some years ago, to turn your life around."

Judge Gableman then announced his decision to set aside the plea agreement and impose a stiffer sentence. He sentenced Atkins to 11 years, six months in the state prison system, with not less than the first three years, six months spent in state prison and no more than the remaining eight years on extended supervised release. Because one of the

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Herrera sentenced to ten years

SIREN - David A. Herrera, 36, Grantsburg has been found guilty on one count of committing 2nd-degree sexual assault of a child between July and August of 2001. A second charge was dismissed, as was a bail-jumping charge.

He was sentenced Feb. 20 in Burnett County Circuit Court to ten years in prison, which could be five years of confinement followed by five years of extended supervision.

Herrera received credit for 282 days already served in jail. He must pay restitution for any counseling the victim may require and complete a sex offender program. In addition, Herrera must complete a DNA sample, and pay $345 in court costs and DNA analysis fees as well as $1,861.89 in restitution for costs of extraditing him back to Wisconsin from Mexico for the trial.

Facing two felony counts of sexual assault under 16 years of age between July 1, 2001 and August 1, 2001, Herrera jumped bail Oct. 30, 2002 and reportedly fled to El Paso, Texas. He had posted a $10,000 bond which he forfeited for failing to comply with the conditions of the bond by skipping out on his initial appearance.

The victim lived with Herrera, his wife, and their five young children at a Grantsburg residence when the assaults occurred.

Herrera is not a U.S. citizen but holds a valid green card.

Study recommends $2.11

PAGE 14 - INTER-COUNTY LEADER - NEWS SECTION - A - JULY 28, 2004

Sex offender denied release motion

Adam R. Hess, 19, Grantsburg, told he'll need to sustain good behavior longer before release is supported

by Craig Hansen

SIREN – It takes more than two weeks to a month of appropriate sexual restraint for a convicted sex offender's bid for

between the ages of 13 and 18 to view sexual activity, a Schedule D felony, stemming from a July 26, 2002, incident. In addition to the count he was convicted of and sentenced to psychiatric treatment over, Hess was charged in a number of other counts out of Burnett County and Eau Claire County, including several counts of exposing genitals to a child and lewd and lascivious behavior in public.

Adam Hess

tained sexual self-control and displayed good sexual behavior for about a month now. We prefer to see appropriate behavior maintained over a longer length of time before recommending someone to be released from treatment to supervised release."

Paul Moldenhauer, Hess' attorney, asked how long a patient might need to display such self-control before they would be considered good candidates for release from treatment.

"At least six months of continuous, uninterrupted appropriate sexual behavior," the doctor replied. "And seeing that coupled with earning a transfer from maximum security to a lower level of security would help."

Once the doctor's testimony concluded, Molden-

DECEMBER 10, 2003 - INTER-COUNTY LEADER - NEWS SECTION #A - PAGE 17

B U R N E T T C O U N T Y H E A D L I N E S

Judge denies attorney change

Cites tendency of attorneys for Joseph M. Darkcloud, 53, Portage, to resign

by Craig Hansen

SIREN – "Too many attorneys are finding it very difficult to work with Mr. Darkcloud," said Burnett County Circuit Court Judge Mike Gableman last Thursday. "At some point, matters have to come to a conclusion."

With that, Judge Gableman denies a motion filed by Superior attorney Keith Peterson to withdraw as the legal counsel of Joseph M. Darkcloud, a/k/a

resisting or obstructing an officer, a

Burnett County Judge Mike Gableman looked concerned as he heard a request from Superior attorney Keith

defender, replacing Gerald Wright. After going over the details of his case and, according to Peterson, "questioning him in the mildest possible way about some details of his case," Peterson received a letter from Darkcloud, critical of Peterson's performance as an attorney.

Citing an example of his mild questioning, Peterson told Judge Gableman, "There was a particular hearing at which Mr. Darkcloud insists he was not present, yet I have a copy of the complete court transcript of that proceeding and not only is he noted as being present, he addresses the court. I asked him about this apparent discrepancy and he insisted he wasn't there and became critical of me."

Yet such arguments had no effect on Gableman's final ruling.

"At present, I can think of no one locally who could better represent Mr. Darkcloud," Judge Gableman said, citing Peterson's legal qualifications. "I am disturbed by the comments I've heard from Wright before he withdrew as Darkcloud's attorney and I am disturbed by the comments I've heard from you, Mr. Peterson. However, I think I can foresee with a degree of certainty that if I appoint another attorney in this case, we'll soon be in a similar position once again, after more time goes by, at more expense to the county and the taxpayers and more waste of the court's time. Therefore, motion denied."

Judge Gableman then advised Darkcloud to "renew your efforts" to work well with his attorney.

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B U R N E T T C O U N T Y H E A D L I N E S

Judge: business in the courtroom on the rise

Judge Michael Gableman holds his first public listening session; expounds on variety of issues related to justice system

by Gary King

DEWEY – Judge Michael Gableman kept a campaign promise last Saturday by holding the first of what he said will be monthly public listening sessions across Burnett County.

Spending most of the session reviewing topics dealing with efforts to collect past due court-ordered forfeitures, getting prisoners to help pay for the cost of their keep, applying a community standard in sentencing and innovative programs of small claims counselors and restorative justice, Gableman also took time to field questions from approximately 15 citizens.

Burnett County Circuit Court Judge Michael Gableman held the first of his monthly listening sessions at the Town of Dewey town hall last Saturday. – *Photo by Gary King*

"I've been made aware by law enforcement there are criminals out there in our county who have become so savvy about the use of the jail system that when they need dental work or medical care, they go out and commit a crime and deliberately get caught because they know the sheriff's department and the county have to pay for it. We have to start looking at things to make the people who are put in jail financially responsible for the cost of their care and feeding."

– Judge Michael Gableman

time someone is sentenced the sheriff or Department of Corrections have a legal responsibility to maintain that person in

For example, Gableman noted, if a person put graffiti all over someone's garage or tore up their year with a car,

JUDGE GABLEMAN SUPREME COURT

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Volunteer

Yes! I want to help elect Judge Michael Gableman to the Wisconsin Supreme Court! Here is my contact information.
(An asterisk denotes required information)

* First Name:
* Last Name:
* Street:
* City:
* County: ADAMS
* State:
* Zip Code:
* Phone:
* E-mail: -- your email --

Judge Gableman, I would like to help with your election effort in the following ways.
(Please check all that apply)

Add me to your email list: ○ Yes ○ Maybe Later

Posting a yard sign: ○ Yes ○ Maybe Later

Database entry: ○ Yes ○ Maybe Later

Helping at parades/events: ○ Yes ○ Maybe Later

Scheduling Judge Gableman to visit my service/civic club: ○ Yes ○ Maybe Later

Using my name as an endorsement: ○ Yes ○ Maybe Later

Hosting a fundraiser: ○ Yes ○ Maybe Later

Helping with mailings: ○ Yes ○ Maybe Later

Making phone calls: ○ Yes ○ Maybe Later

Sending letters to the editor: ○ Yes ○ Maybe Later

Distributing literature: ○ Yes ○ Maybe Later

Purchasing a t-shirt: ○ Yes ○ Maybe Later

Serving as a ward captain: ○ Yes ○ Maybe Later

Other Ways I'd Like to Help Judge Gableman's Campaign:

Submit

JUDGE GABLEMAN SUPREME COURT

Thank You!

Contact Us

Gableman for Supreme Court
P.O. Box 2598
Madison, WI 53701-2598

Email: gablemaninfo@gablemanforsupremecourt.com

JUDGE GABLEMAN SUPREME COURT

Judge Gableman: Law Enforcement's Choice for Supreme Court

Democrats, Republicans and independents endorse Gableman

Ron Cramer, Eau Claire County Sheriff and President of the Badger State Sheriff's Association
"Judge Gableman exemplifies what Wisconsin law enforcement looks for in a Supreme Court Justice. He's fair, tough and understands the difficult job law enforcement faces each day in protecting Wisconsin families. I'm happy to endorse his candidacy."

Siren Police Chief Chris Sybers
"When lawbreakers look for loopholes, I want Judge Gableman there to honor the constitution and protect Wisconsin and her citizens. Law enforcement from across the state will be happy Judge Gableman is on the Supreme Court."

Grantsburg Police Chief Jeff Schinzing
"Local law enforcement has a friend in Judge Gableman. He has a solid background in criminal and civil justice that has him prepared to serve on the state's highest court. I'm happy to endorse him for Supreme Court."

James Zeiler, former Wisconsin Department of Justice Special Agent and Wauwatosa Police Officer
"I've fought to rid our communities of the worst drug offenders. We can't afford to have the highest court in Wisconsin put lawbreakers' interests ahead of the law. We need Judge Gableman on the Supreme Court."

Judge Fred Kawalski, Langland County Circuit Court
"I support Judge Gableman for Supreme Court because we're better served by his common sense adherence to the law. I have known Mike for many years and know that he is dedicated to the fair and consistent administration of justice."

Judge James R. Habeck, Shawano County Circuit Court
"With Judge Gableman on the ballot, Democrats, Republicans and Independents know they have a candidate committed to Justice. Mike will apply the law fairly, impartially and consistently."

Kenneth L. Kutz, Burnett County District Attorney
"Over the past five years in which Mike Gableman has served as circuit court judge for Burnett County, I have found him to be an outstanding judge. He treats criminal defendants with a great deal of fairness and respect for their rights, yet doesn't hesitate to hold them accountable for their crimes. He has also been instrumental in developing proactive programs such as the Drug and Alcohol Court, in order to stem the problem of recidivism among our criminal population.

I have also come to know him personally. He brings to his job dedication and commitment to the cause of justice."

Endorsements

Sheriffs

Brown County Sheriff Dennis Kocken
Buffalo County Sheriff Michael Schmidtknecht
Burnett County Sheriff Dean Roland
Calumet County Sheriff Gerald Pagel
Chippewa County Sheriff James Kowalczyk
Clark County Sheriff Louie Rosandich
Columbia County Sheriff Dennis Richards
Crawford County Sheriff Jerry Moran
Dodge County Sheriff Todd Nehls
Door County Sheriff Terry Vogel
Douglas County Sheriff Thomas Dalbec
Dunn County Sheriff Dennis Smith
Eau Claire County Sheriff Ron Cramer
Florence County Sheriff Jeff Rickaby
Forest County Sheriff Keith Van Cleve
Grant County Sheriff Keith Govier
Green County Sheriff Randy Roderick
Green Lake County Sheriff Mark Podoll
Iowa County Sheriff Steven Michek
Iron County Sheriff Robert Bruneau
Jackson County Sheriff DeWayne Waldera
Kenosha County Sheriff David Beth

Kewaunee County Sheriff Matt Joski
La Crosse County Sheriff Steven Helgeson
Lafayette County Sheriff Scott Pedley
Langlade County Sheriff William Greening
Lincoln County Sheriff Jeffrey Jaeger
Marinette County Sheriff Jim Kanikula
Marquette County Sheriff Kim Gaffney
Monroe County Sheriff Dennis Pedersen
Oconto County Sheriff Mike Jansen
Ozaukee County Sheriff Maury Straub
Pepin County Sheriff John Andrews
Pierce County Sheriff Nancy Hove
Racine County Sheriff Robert Carlson
Rusk County Sheriff David Kaminski
Sauk County Sheriff Randy Stammen
Sawyer County Sheriff James Meier
Shawano County Sheriff Randy Wright
St. Croix County Sheriff Dennis Hillstead
Taylor County Sheriff Bruce Daniels
Trempealeau County Sheriff Richard Anderson
Vernon County Sheriff Gene Cary
Vilas County Sheriff John Niebuhr
Walworth County Sheriff Dave Graves
Washburn County Sheriff Terry Dryden
Washington County Sheriff Dale Schmidt
Waukesha County Sheriff Daniel Trawicki
Waupaca County Sheriff Brad Hardel
Waushara County Sheriff David Peterson
Winnebago County Sheriff Michael Brooks

District Attorneys

Adams County District Attorney Mark Thibodeau
Ashland County District Attorney Sean Duffy
Barrom County District Attorney Angela Holmstrom
Bayfield County District Attorney H. Craig Haukass
Calumet County District Attorney Ken Kratz
Chippewa County District Attorney John Theisen
Dunn County District Attorney James Peterson
Florence County District Attorney Doug Drexler
Forest County District Attorney Leon Stenz
Green County District Attorney Gary Luhman
Green Lake County District Attorney Winn Collins
Iron County District Attorney Martin Lipske
Jefferson County District Attorney David Wambach
Juneau County District Attorney Scott Southworth
Langlade County District Attorney Ralph Uttke
Marinette County District Attorney Brent DeBord
Marquette County District Attorney Richard Dufour
Monroe County District Attorney Dan Cary
Outagamie County District Attorney Carrie Schneider
Ozaukee County District Attorney Sandy Williams
Racine County District Attorney Michael Nieskes
Richland County District Attorney Andrew Sharp
Rusk County District Attorney Kathleen Pakes
St. Croix County District Attorney Eric Johnson
Sauk County District Attorney Pat Barrett
Sawyer County District Attorney Thomas Van Roy
Shawano/Menominee Counties District Attorney Greg Parker
Taylor County District Attorney Karl Kelz
Vernon County District Attorney Tim Gaskell

Vilas County District Attorney Al Moustakis
Washburn County District Attorney Mike Bitney
Washington County District Attorney Todd Martens
Waukesha County District Attorney Brad Schimel
Waushara County District Attorney Scott Blader
Winnebago County District Attorney Christian Gossett
Wood County District Attorney Todd Wolf

Assistant District Attorneys

Ashland County, ADA Dan Goglin
Barron County, ADA James Babbitt
Brown County, ADA Thomas Coaty
Dane County ADA Robert Kaiser
Dodge County ADA Kurt F. Klomberg
Dodge County ADA James T. Sempf
Kenosha County ADA Jeff Rossell
Langlade County, ADA Scott Moller
Milwaukee County, ADA Daniel Gabler
Milwaukee County, ADA Bruce Becker
Monroe County, Amy Flottmeyer
Ozaukee County ADA Jeff Sisley
Racine County ADA James Newlun
Rock County ADA Daniel Niedfeldt
Rock County ADA Gerald Urbik
Rock County ADA Mary Bricco
Rock County Deputy DA Perry Folts
Rock County ADA Raymond Jablonski
Rock County ADA Richard Sullivan
Waukesha County ADA Kevin Osborne
Waukesha County ADA Mark Powers
Waukesha County ADA Pablo Galaviz
Waukesha County ADA Susan Opper

Police Chiefs

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Judge Babler, Barron County
Judge Daley, Presiding Judge, Rock County
Judge Grimm, Fond du Lac County
Judge JR Habech, Shawano County
Judge Harrington, Washburn County
Judge Horne, La Crosse County
Judge Kawalski, Langlade County
Judge Kelly, Brown County
Judge Klossner, Dodge County
Judge Reily, Waukesha County
Judge Froehlich, Outagamie County

Other

Darlene Treague, Victim Witness Coordinator, Burnett County
Nancy Toth, Victim Witness Coordinator, Ashland County
Pam Brown, Former Victim Witness Coordinator, Langlade County

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For immediate release: March 27, 2008
Contact: Darrin Schmitz (608) 661.0777

FOP: LAW ENFORCEMENT CAN "TRUST" JUDGE GABLEMAN

Wisconsin State Lodge Fraternal Order of Police Endorse Judge Gableman

{Webster, WI…} The Gableman for Supreme Court campaign today announced the endorsement of the Wisconsin State Lodge Fraternal Order of Police, further establishing the Burnett County Circuit Court Judge as law enforcement's choice for the Court.

Representing law enforcement officers across the state, the Wisconsin State Lodge Fraternal Order of Police found that Gableman's experience and reputation as a judge best reflected the organization's goals and priorities.

"With our endorsement, voters can be assured that Judge Gableman's qualifications have been fully vetted by law enforcement as someone we trust to serve with honesty and integrity as a Supreme Court Justice," said Wisconsin State Lodge President Jeffery Gaidosh.

The FOP's mission is to improve the working conditions of the law enforcement officers of Wisconsin through legislation, education and involvement in community affairs.

"I'm honored to receive the support of the Wisconsin State Lodge Fraternal Order of Police," said Judge Gableman. "The FOP's endorsement recognizes my commitment to the laws of Wisconsin and my credentials to serve on the Wisconsin Supreme Court."

Judge Gableman enjoys the endorsement of a bi-partisan majority of district attorneys and sheriffs in the state, as well as more than 50 police chiefs and the Wisconsin Sheriffs and Deputy Sheriffs' Association. Judge Gableman has more than 10 times as many sheriff endorsements as his opponent and nearly twice as many district attorney endorsements.

Judge Gableman is the only candidate for the Supreme Court with prosecutorial experience. His opponent, Justice Louis Butler, was a long-time criminal defense lawyer who ran for the Court in 2000 and lost by a 2-1 margin. Butler was appointed to the Court in 2004.

Butler's appointment to the Court and subsequent activist votes have resulted in a series of controversial criminal case rulings and opinions that have made the job of Wisconsin law enforcement more difficult.

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No one here but us Scalias

Posted: March 25, 2008

Patrick McIlheran

If it's such a bad year to run as a conservative, why are candidates doing it?

They are. Incumbent Lisa Neubauer and challenger William Gleisner, running for the Wisconsin Court of Appeals, call themselves conservatives. Neither was until mere minutes before the race.

The district includes Manitowoc, Oshkosh, Racine - Unionvilles that should be attracted to two longtime Democratic donors. Yet each candidate claims to exceed the other in conservatism.

Then there's Supreme Court Justice Louis Butler, also known as "Hang-'Em High," if one believes the ads. Or you can call him Antonin. No, really: "I tend to be a textualist in the mold of a Hugo Black or Antonin Scalia," he said the other day.

You mean the Scalia on the U.S. Supreme Court, loathed by the left, who says an antidote to judge-made chaos is to read laws as written? That Scalia?

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Yup. Butler says he, too, just rules as the law says.

Others disagree. Butler's predecessor, federal judge Diane Sykes, in 2006 looked back on the Wisconsin Supreme Court's 2004-'05 session, the first in which Butler replaced her. It wasn't, in her view, a Scalia sort of year - the court "manifested a cavalier, almost dismissive attitude toward the sources of legal interpretation generally thought to be most authoritative: the text, structure and history of

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the constitution and laws, and the court's own precedents."

She wasn't talking about Butler specifically. But when Gov. Jim Doyle chose Butler, whom Sykes had beaten in 2000, he replaced a judicial conservative with someone who most often sided with the court's activists. Butler was the new element in 2004-'05, a year of "astonishing decisions," as Marquette Law School Dean Joseph D. Kearney said. Butler's vote changed the balance of power.

What ensued? The court, now with Butler on it, decided the Legislature couldn't cap medical malpractice awards, switching course from the year before. It invented a new test of whether lawmakers had a rational basis for their acts, calling it a rational-basis test "with teeth," whatever that means. Butler concurred. It was, said Sykes, "a major departure from long-accepted constitutional principles that operate to maintain the balance of power."

The court ruled that "showups," where police ask a witness whether a freshly caught suspect is the culprit, were out of bounds. It relied mainly on studies claiming that eyewitness testimony is "hopelessly unreliable." Butler concurred.

The court threw out the confession of a 14-year-old robbery suspect - then ruled that jailhouse interrogations of teens are no good unless they're taped. The move "violates every principle of our express but limited constitutional power," wrote a dissenting justice, David Prosser.

Butler had voted with the majority.

Then there was the lead paint case. The court ruled that a boy harmed by eating paint chips could sue companies that had made lead pigment, whether it was their pigment that hurt him or not. Butler, who wrote the decision, explains that as with people pouring poison in a well, it doesn't matter whose poison did the deed.

The reasoning has weak seams. Paint wasn't the

State Supreme Court candidates Louis Butler and Michael Gableman answer questions in separate online chats.

Louis Butler, Friday, March 21

Michael Gableman, 4 p.m. Wednesday, March 26

Video: Editorial Board Meetings

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only source of lead. The 75-year period in which lead paint was common and legal makes it almost impossible for a company to prove it wasn't to blame. Unlike the example of the well, the hazard could be contained with reasonable steps - like proper home maintenance. Dissenting, Justice Jon Wilcox called the opinion "over 50 pages of so-called 'facts' in order to construct an intricate tapestry of malfeasance and culpability."

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Butler says the case was really about access to justice. Though as the boy already had gotten money out of landlords, it is likely that the case was about access to deeper pockets. And while a Milwaukee jury later decided against the boy, Butler's decision remains on the books, ready to snare any company that can't positively prove its innocence.

This is not judicial restraint, but for the most part, in ad after ad, in forum after interview, Butler has maintained he is a restrained, cautious "textualist."

This isn't necessarily to endorse the challenger, Michael Gableman, a judge running credibly as the judicial conservative. It is, however, to question why Butler doesn't embrace his liberalism.

Some voters can and do feel that judges should remodel the law to better target companies and to better protect criminal defendants. From how he voted, that seems to have been Butler's view.

But judges who seem inclined to dismember corporations and leash the cops don't often win. Fundamentally, Wisconsinites don't buy the premises of judicial liberals. In the long run, this is good for justice and the state.

In the short run, it means that if Butler is elected, it will be because voters believed him to be the opposite of the justice he has already turned out to be.

Patrick McIlheran is a Journal Sentinel editorial columnist. E-mail pmcilheran@journalsentinel.com

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For Immediate Release: March 25, 2008
Contact: Darrin Schmitz (608) 661-0777

NRA Political Victory Fund and Wisconsin Rifle & Pistol Association Endorse Judge Gableman for Supreme Court

[Burnett County, Wisc…] Judge Gableman's campaign for Supreme Court today announced the endorsements of the National Rifle Association (NRA) Political Victory Fund and the Wisconsin Rifle & Pistol Association (WRPA).

Eric Obermeyer, President of the Wisconsin Rifle & Pistol Association, said Judge Gableman is the candidate with best record of applying the plain language of the law and interpreting the Constitution according to its text – instead of legislating from the bench.

"Wisconsin's sportsmen and women are thankful that Judge Gableman represents a consistent, fair, and balanced approach to applying the law and interpreting the Constitution," said Obermeyer. "Our state's long and proud sporting traditions are enjoyed by families all across Wisconsin. The WRPA is pleased to support his message of not legislating from the bench and endorses his candidacy for the Supreme Court."

Gableman for Supreme Court campaign consultant Darrin Schmitz said the endorsement of both these groups sends a clear message to millions of sporting families across the state about which candidate best respects individual rights and the Constitution. Gov. Jim Doyle, an ardent opponent of a Constitutional amendment to protect the right to keep and bear arms, appointed Louis Butler to the Supreme Court in 2004.

"Judge Gableman respects individual freedoms and our state and federal Constitutions," Schmitz said. "The last thing Wisconsin families want to see is an activist Justice declaring open season on gun rights and eroding our sporting traditions."

Judge Gableman is the only candidate for the Supreme Court with prosecutorial experience. He is endorsed by a bi-partisan majority of sheriffs and district attorneys, as well as the Wisconsin Sheriffs and Deputy Sheriffs' Association, more than 50 police chiefs and numerous assistant district attorneys and judges. His opponent was a long-time criminal defense lawyer who ran for the Court in 2000 and lost by a 2-1 margin. He was appointed to the Court in 2004.

Judge Gableman was appointed Burnett County Circuit Court in 2002 and was overwhelmingly elected to the bench in 2003 with 78% of the vote. Prior to his experience on the bench, Judge Gableman was appointed District Attorney for Ashland County (1999) by Governor Tommy G. Thompson and subsequently won election to the position. As District Attorney, he was the lead prosecutor on cases as diverse as arson, sexual assault, domestic violence, and white collar crimes. He also served as a front-line prosecutor in Marathon County (1997-1999) and Langlade County (1996-1997) as an Assistant District Attorney.

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Authorized and paid for by Gableman for Supreme Court, James Zeiler, treasurer

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Editor/Opinion Page

Re: Wisconsin Supreme Court Race

The race for the State Supreme Court between Justice Louis Butler and Judge Michael Gableman is a very important one. That fact should be obvious to anyone paying attention to all of the radio and television ads surrounding this election. Unfortunately, as the ads for both candidates have turned somewhat negative, many people have turned a deaf ear to it all. As a result, many citizens do not fully understand the great importance this race will play in the future of Wisconsin.

Within the current Supreme Court there is an obvious 4 to 3 split with a liberal majority and a conservative minority. The liberal majority is a product of a gubernatorial appointment several years ago of Justice Louis Butler to the Court to replace a more conservative Justice, Diane Sykes, who took a Federal Judgeship.

Since the liberal mindset became the majority opinion, the Court has become decidedly left leaning and has repeatedly demonstrated a propensity for legislating from the bench. Furthermore, the current Court, through liberal interpretation of the constitution, has shown a general bias against good honest law enforcement, and against the victims of crime, in favor of criminals and defense lawyers.

Simply put, the current Court has made it more difficult for law enforcement to protect the public from criminals. That is why the Wisconsin Sheriffs and Deputy Sheriffs Association, more than 50 of the 72 individual Sheriffs throughout the state, more that 50 police chiefs, and the vast majority of District Attorneys in this state, all have chosen to publicly endorse Judge Michael Gableman in his effort to be elected to this state's highest court.

Unlike the alternative, Judge Gableman comes from a law enforcement background, having a long history as a prosecutor, and knows the challenges of law enforcement. Both as a prosecutor and judge he has shown his support for victims, and the fair treatment of criminals, while interpreting and applying the law and the constitution, in a fair no nonsense manner. Law enforcement and the citizens of this state need Judge Gableman in the Supreme Court. That is why the WSDSA, along with most Sheriffs, District Attorneys, and many Police Chiefs from throughout the state, support Judge Gableman.

This Supreme Court race is extremely important as it will have an immediate and long lasting impact on the lives of all the citizens of this state. Law enforcement and the voters of this state need a change in order to preserve the qualities of this great state. No one can afford to continue in the direction that this Court is sending us. I am concerned and you should be as well.

Sheriff Maury Straub, Ozaukee County
Vice President, W.S.D.S.A.

For immediate release: March 20, 2008
Contact: Darrin Schmitz (608) 661-0777

BUTLER DODGES DEBATES; SPINS FALSE RECORD

Butler refuses Supreme Court debates and back peddles on record

{Webster, WI…} The Gableman for Supreme Court campaign today is asking why Justice Louis Butler is dodging debates with former prosecutor and Judge Michael Gableman as news reports reveal Butler has been using phony statistics regarding his record on the Court.

Justice Butler has either canceled or dodged three debates leading up to the final two weeks of the campaign including the 4th Street Forum in Milwaukee, the Waukesha County Bar Association Forum and the Marquette University debate with WISN UPFRONT host Mike Gousha.

Gableman for Supreme Court campaign consultant Darrin Schmitz says Butler is refusing to debate because he cannot defend his record of anti-law enforcement decisions and the phony numbers he's been spinning to the media regarding cases taken up by the Court.

"Louis Butler is running away from his record and attempting to hide," said Schmitz. "In the ultimate April Fools joke, Louis Butler has been spinning phony statistics hoping to trick voters on election day. Louis Butler needs to come clean as to why he's been misleading the public and the media about his record of siding with criminals."

According to March 19, 2008, WKOW TV report, Butler's campaign is now back peddling on statistics regarding Butler's record in criminal cases taken up by the Supreme Court calling them a "draft":

> **A Butler campaign spokesperson also released to 27 News a revised record of Butler's participation in supreme courts case since he was appointed to the high court in 2004, to support ad claims Butler has upheld criminal prosecutions in the vast majority of cases. A blogger had cited a previous record of Butler's actions released to the Associated Press as flawed, citing several omitted cases where Butler had sided with overturning convictions. A Butler campaign spokesperson called the material released to the AP "a draft."**

"The Butler campaign's lies have been revealed. They've known all along their spin was phony. It's a shameless attempt to fool the media and voters about his real soft on crime record," said Schmitz.

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Wisconsin Ag News Headlines

VFA Endorse Judge Gableman for State Supreme Court

Wisconsin Ag Connection - 03/17/2008

The political action arm of the Wisconsin Farm Bureau has endorsed Judge Michael Gableman for the State Supreme Court. The Volunteers for Agriculture says Judge Gableman would be the stronger candidate when it comes to protecting the state's Right to Farm law, which has come up in the news a lot during the past year while watching the controversial case between a northern Wisconsin cranberry grower and a group of near-by landowners.

"Judge Gableman is a judge that our committee believes will protect our right to farm in Wisconsin," said Pam Garvey, chair of the Volunteers for Agriculture and Polk County Farm Bureau member. "Wisconsin farmers recognize that state government is a system of checks and balances, and it is important to us to elect justices that will not legislate from the bench. We appreciate that Judge Gableman strongly agrees with this viewpoint."

Garvey reminded voters that as issues to Wisconsin's $51 billion agriculture industry come before the high court, it is important for farmers to participate in Supreme Court elections.

The Volunteers for Agriculture was established in 1988 with the primary goal of increasing the involvement of the agricultural community in the political process.

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For Immediate Release: March 13, 2008
Contact: Darrin Schmitz (608) 661-0777

50 Police Chiefs Endorse Judge Gableman

Law Enforcement's Choice for the Supreme Court Continues to Rack Up Endorsements

[Burnett County, Wisc….] Following on the heels of endorsements from two former Supreme Court Justices, the Gableman for Supreme Court campaign today announced that 50 police chiefs from every corner of the state have now endorsed the Burnett County Judge for the state's highest court.

Judge Gableman said the large number of law enforcement endorsements reinforces his message that voters desire a Justice that will not create loopholes for criminal defendants to exploit.

"It's a tremendous honor to have the support of so many police chiefs and law enforcement officials from across our great state," said Judge Gableman. "My message of applying the plain language of the law in a fair and balanced manner, and not tying the hands of those working to keep our communities safe, is clearly resonating."

Judge Gableman enjoys the endorsement of a bi-partisan majority of district attorneys and sheriffs in the state, as well as the Wisconsin Sheriffs and Deputy Sheriffs Association. Judge Gableman has more 10 times as many sheriffs' endorsements as his opponent and nearly twice as many district attorney endorsements.

Judge Gableman is the only candidate for the Supreme Court with prosecutorial experience. His opponent, Justice Louis Butler, was a long-time criminal defense lawyer who ran for the Court in 2000 and lost by a 2-1 margin. Butler was appointed to the Court in 2004.

Butler's appointment to the Court and subsequent activist votes have resulted in a series of controversial criminal case rulings and opinions including:

> ***State v. Dubose:*** Butler voted to prohibit law enforcement from asking crime victims and witnesses to identify a suspect at or near a crime scene unless it was "necessary". His decision makes it more difficult for police officers to investigate crimes.

(more)

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ADD ONE – 50 POLICE CHIEFS

The following police chiefs have endorsed Judge Gableman's campaign for Supreme Court:

Amery Police Chief Tom Marson
Antigo Police Chief William Brandt
Balsam Lake Police Chief Sheryl Gehrman
Beaver Dam Police Chief Dale Boldt
Big Bend Police Chief Michael Hartert
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Supreme Court judge candidate visits here

Meg Heaton Hudson Star-Observer
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Burnett County Circuit Court Judge Mike Gableman was in Hudson last week to campaign for election to a seat on the Wisconsin Supreme Court. He is challenging incumbent Justice Louis Butler, who was appointed to the court in 2004 by Gov. Jim Doyle.

Gableman has been a judge since 2002 and prior to that served as district attorney in Ashland County and as an assistant district attorney in both Marathon and Langlade counties. He also has private practice experience and serves as an adjunct professor at his alma mater, Hamline University School of Law.

Gableman describes himself as a judicial conservative, a philosophy he says puts him in stark contrast with his opponent, Butler, a former defense attorney.

Gableman said he believes in the fair application of "the plain language of the law."

"It is the job of a judge to apply the law as written, not to

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Judge Mike Gableman

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make new law." Gableman said as a judge it is his job to not only protect the rights of the accused but also to honor and maintain the rights of the victims as well as the work of law enforcement. He describes Butler as a "judicial activist" who lets his personal and political beliefs influence him from the bench.

According to information provided by the campaign, Gableman has received bipartisan endorsement from 52 Wisconsin sheriffs, 37 district attorneys and 22 police chiefs. He is also endorsed by the Wisconsin Sheriffs and Deputy Sheriffs Association and Wisconsin Right to Life.

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Gableman said the job of a Supreme Court judge is that of a public servant who must earn and work to maintain the trust of the people. The judge said he has worked throughout his career to find creative and effective ways to address issues like drug and alcohol abuse, domestic violence and restorative justice.

"There can be creativity in addressing these issues in our communities but not when it comes to the administration of the court."

The Wisconsin Supreme Court has seven justices who are elected to 10-year terms in statewide, non-partisan elections. Vacancies are filled by gubernatorial appointment and the appointee is required to stand for election to a full 10-year term the following spring. The Wisconsin Constitution limits justices to running one at a time. This year's election is April 1.

For more information on Judge Gableman go to www.gablemanforsupremecourt.com.

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226 Locust Street
Hudson, WI. 54016

For Immediate Release: March 11, 2008
Contact: Darrin Schmitz (608) 661-0777

Former Supreme Court Justices Callow and Steinmetz Endorse Judge Gableman

[Burnett County, Wisc….] The Gableman for Supreme Court campaign today announced the endorsement of two former members of the Wisconsin Supreme Court.

Former Justices William G. Callow and Donald W. Steinmetz endorsed Judge Michael Gableman for the state's highest court. Justice Callow was elected to two ten-year terms on the Court (1977-92) as was Justice Steinmetz (1980-99).

"I'm pleased to endorse Judge Gableman for the Wisconsin Supreme Court. He's a proven trial court judge and will provide a fair and balanced approach to the rule of law," said former Supreme Court Justice William Callow. "Wisconsin's spring judicial and governmental elections are designed to be non-partisan. Our court system, bound constitutionally by a separation of powers, is a unique branch of government that must adhere to independence. Judge Gableman embodies those judicial philosophies and will make a fine Supreme Court Justice."

Judge Gableman said he was honored to have the support of two distinguished former Justices who believe he is the better choice for the Supreme Court.

"I'm deeply honored to have the endorsement of Justices Callow and Steinmetz," said Judge Gableman. "The voters of Wisconsin are looking for a Justice that is fair and balanced, and someone who will apply the plain language of the law. Activist judges undermine the public's trust in the court system and fail to provide a consistency that people expect and should demand from their elected Justices."

Judge Gableman has a distinguished and wide-ranging legal career serving as a circuit court judge, district attorney, assistant district attorney, administrative law judge, adjunct professor of law, deputy corporation counsel and private practice attorney.

Judge Gableman, law enforcement's choice for the Court, is endorsed by a bi-partisan majority of sheriffs and district attorneys as well as the Wisconsin Sheriffs and Deputy Sheriffs Association. He enjoys the endorsement of more than 10 times the number of sheriff endorsements and nearly twice as many district attorney endorsements.

Prior to his experience on the bench, Judge Gableman was appointed district attorney for Ashland County (1999) by Governor Tommy G. Thompson and subsequently won election to the position. As district attorney, he was the lead prosecutor on cases as diverse as arson, sexual assault, domestic violence, and white collar crimes. He also served as a front-line prosecutor in Marathon County (1997-1999) and Langlade County (1996-1997) as an assistant district attorney.

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P.O. Box 2598, Madison, WI 53701-2598
www.gablemanforsupremecourt.com
Authorized and paid for by Gableman for Supreme Court, James Zeiler, treasurer

For Immediate Release: March 10, 2008
Contact: Darrin Schmitz (608) 661-0777

Nearly Twice As Many DA Endorsements For Gableman As Butler

Grant County District Attorney and Two Assistant District Attorney Latest to Endorse Gableman

[Burnett County, Wisc….] Judge Gableman's campaign for Supreme Court already has more than 10 times as many sheriff endorsements than his opponent and now the number of district attorneys endorsing the Burnett County Judge is roughly twice as many as the incumbent Justice.

Grant County District Attorney Lisa Riniker became the 38th district attorney to endorse Judge Gableman. The Grant County District Attorney was joined by two Assistant District Attorneys in announcing their support of Judge Gableman.

"District attorneys are an integral component in Wisconsin's fight against crime. I'm thankful for their endorsements and the overwhelming support I have from the law enforcement community," Judge Gableman said.

Joining Grant County District Attorney Lisa Riniker in announcing their endorsements of Judge Gableman were two additional front-line prosecutors;

- Kurt F. Klomberg Assistant District Attorney, Dodge County
- James T. Sempf Assistant District Attorney, Dodge County

Judge Gableman is the only candidate for the Supreme Court with prosecutorial experience. His opponent, Louis Butler, was a long-time criminal defense lawyer who ran for the Court in 2000 and lost by a 2-1 margin. He was appointed to the Court in 2004.

Butler's appointment to the Court and subsequent activist votes have resulted in a series of controversial criminal case rulings and opinions. In fact, studies have shown that Butler sides with criminals in nearly 60 percent of the cases taken up by the Supreme Court. Just one example is:

> ***State v. Stenklyft:*** Butler's vote reversed a state law that gave prosecutors the right to veto an inmate's petition for early release. The ruling prohibits prosecutors from using this tool to keep violent criminals, drug dealers, sex offenders and other criminals from being released early.

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Legal News

Board members question Bar sponsorship of campaign committee

March 10, 2008

Throughout the past several weeks, the Wisconsin Judicial Campaign Integrity Committee (WJCIC) has been both commended and condemned for its actions in this year's state Supreme Court election.

On Feb. 29, some members of the State Bar of Wisconsin's Board of Governors called for the Bar to suspend sponsorship of the WJCIC and one criticized President Thomas J. Basting, Sr., for his administrative authority to create the committee.

The board ultimately voted to support Basting's formation of the committee, but the issue of whether or not the State Bar should be formally associated with the WJCIC was tabled until after the election.

Motion to Withdraw

Gov. Michael J. Morse, who proposed withdrawal, questioned the ability of the Bar to be formally associated with an organization which polices the speech of state Supreme Court candidates.

"I just do not believe that this quasi-governmental agency that people are mandated to belong to at the cost of their license, should be regulating or affecting speech for the positions that govern us," said Morse, who supported the committee in concept.

In a separate interview, Morse declined to say whether the recent allegations of impartiality against the WJCIC prompted his presentation. He indicated the board had not met since December so the February meeting was his first opportunity since then to raise concerns expressed by his constituency.

Basting defended the level of participation State Bar staff currently have with the WJCIC and indicated the organization would operate independent of the bar in the future.

"We are not speech police," said Basting. "I formed this committee with the idea that it would be a group of citizens in fact exercising their First Amendment rights to comment on judicial elections and campaigns and how they are being run."

Support in Principle

While he had no objections to the work being done by the committee, Morse suggested it be done by someone other than members of the State Bar.

In his proposal, Morse recommended the bar absorb WJCIC expenses to date, by way of the State Bar President's Fund, and gradually withdraw bar staff from the committee. He also suggested removal of any references to the bar as a sponsor in WJCIC materials.

A second aspect of the proposal included a provision that the Bar donate $1,000 to the WJCIC from the State Bar President's Fund.

"I believe the bar can still be involved by authorizing grants," said Morse.

Separation Suggestion

Other members of the board agreed that the bar should separate itself from the committee, but less drastically.

Gov. Margaret Wrenn Hickey suggested the board ratify the work done up to that point by the WJCIC and establish a timeline for full withdrawal.

But that initiative failed to garner support and ultimately, the board simply agreed to endorse Basting's initial formation of the WJCIC as an ad hoc committee and address Morse's proposal after the April 1 election.

Morse questioned the authority of the president to create the WJCIC without board approval of membership and funding. Basing cited at least 15 other instances where past presidents formed ad hoc committees and in none of those cases was board authorization a prerequisite.

Bad Timing

Reluctance by board members to vote on the provision to immediately pull out of the WJCIC was also affected by the timing of the proposal. More than a few members of the board were caught off-guard by the proposal, which was disseminated via e-mail only one day prior to the meeting.

Gov. J. David Rice was the first to suggest tabling the issue until after the election in an effort to maintain some level of support for the WJCIC.

"We should take it up in an atmosphere that doesn't undermine what the president has done rather than do it on 24 hours notice and three weeks away from the election," said Rice.

Basting also took issue with the timing of the proposal, especially after he had openly updated the board throughout the past year on the formation and goals of the committee.

“I don’t think the word sandbagging properly describes what’s going on here,” said Basting.

Morse conceded that the objection was poorly timed, but necessary to potentially prevent similar committees from being formed by the bar in the future.

“I think this sets us on a dangerous path if we are to be creating committees of this type with non-members who are approving or regulating or influencing speech,” said Morse.

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Debating philosophies

High court forum gets heated

By STACY FORSTER
sforster@journalsentinel.com

Posted: March 9, 2008

Dodgeville - The candidates in this year's race for a seat on the state Supreme Court sparred over differences in their judicial philosophies in a Dodgeville forum Sunday, but agreed about the negative influence of third-party ads in the campaign.

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State Supreme Court Justice Louis Butler and Burnett County Circuit Judge Mike Gableman met at the Iowa County Courthouse before about 50 people at a forum sponsored by the Iowa County Bar Association and Grassroots Citizens of Wisconsin, a southwestern Wisconsin group that calls itself progressive and encourages political participation.

Butler, 56, of Milwaukee, was appointed to the Supreme Court by Democratic Gov. Jim Doyle. Gableman, 41, of Webster, became a circuit judge in 2002 with an appointment by then-Gov. Scott

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The election is April 1.

In response to a question about judges who use their beliefs in deciding cases, Gableman said the reason he entered the race is because of what he saw as a pattern of decisions influenced by personal opinion. Gableman said he would apply the plain language of the law.

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"People have to be confident that as judges and justices we're not going to make the law, we're going to apply it," Gableman said. "Any substantive changes in the law ought to come from the legislative process."

Butler said his judicial philosophy is to uphold the U.S. and Wisconsin constitutions and hold wrongdoers responsible. Suggestions he makes decisions based on personal preference or ideology were false, he said, and he challenged Gableman to say more about why he disagreed with those decisions.

"I have been campaigning against judges doing that since long before I was on the bench," Butler said. "A judge's responsibility is to interpret and apply the law, not make it."

Pointed exchange

The candidates' exchange was pointed and heated at times, especially when they talked about claims raised in the race.

"There you go again," Butler said in response to criticism from Gableman about Butler's disclosure of contributions from parties to cases before the court. Last year, Butler began disclosing whenever a lawyer with a case before the court had donated to his campaign, but Gableman said it was tardy.

Gableman raised concerns about a letter from Butler's campaign that cast doubts on his ability to treat all parties in the courtroom fairly after such a heated campaign. Gableman, for example, has touted support from law enforcement.

"He knows that the only thing I promised to law enforcement is what I've promised to every person . . . to give them a fair shake and a fair hearing," Gableman said.

Ads from third party interests have driven this year's race, and Gableman

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said the fact the groups don't have to disclose their members should put people on "high alert."

"Both the candidates in this race as well as the citizens of this great state may be best served by these third party groups taking their interests elsewhere," Gableman said.

Butler, who asked third party groups to stay out of the race, called the ads part of a "misleading, dishonest and sleazy" campaign and said Gableman should do more to repudiate them.

"This race goes to the integrity of the justice system of the state of Wisconsin," Butler said. "While the other groups may have a constitutional right to express their point of view, I don't think they should do it in an untruthful, false way."

Butler and Gableman are scheduled for another debate at noon Wednesday at the Milwaukee County Bar Association.

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From the March 10, 2008 editions of the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

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State Supreme Court Justice Candidates Fire Off At Negative Campaigning

Both Candidates Say They Signed Clean Campaign Pledge

POSTED: 8:53 pm CDT March 9, 2008
UPDATED: 9:04 pm CDT March 9, 2008

DODGEVILLE, Wis. -- The race for a seat on Wisconsin's Supreme Court heated up on Sunday in Iowa County as candidates spoke about negative campaigning.

Ads by third-party groups in the state have thrust the Supreme Court race into the public eye in the past few weeks.

Some of the ads have been deemed misleading or even false by a national fact-checking organization.

On Sunday, both candidates agreed that the third-party campaigning is detrimental to the races they are running.

"I believe the candidates in a race as well as citizens of this great state may be best served by these third-party interest groups taking their interest elsewhere," said Burnett County Circuit Court Judge Michael Gableman.

Gableman is challenging incumbent justice Louis Butler for the seat.

"I think you have every right to hear from Judge Gableman, every right to hear from me, and while the other groups have constitutional rights to express their point of view, I don't think they should do it in an untruthful and wrong way."

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The debate was held inside the Iowa County courthouse. Candidates answered questions submitted from audience members from topics ranging from the constitution as a living document to the partisanship of the race.

Candidates also took shots at each other.

Gableman pointed out what he believes is a record of Butler legislating from the bench.

And Butler said Gableman hadn't repudiated any of the third-party ads Butler said were run to Gableman's presumed advantage.

"It's easy to cast these things out in 30-second sound bites but we write 83-page opinions and you cant put that down in 30 seconds," said Butler. "When I hear the type of campaigning that's going on and see the type of ads that disrespect victims and disrespect family members and children, we should not put up with that which is beneath the dignity of the office that I hold."

"I think also as a judicial conservative who believes in giving a fair application to the plain language of the law, I will not legislate from the bench," said Gableman. "That's not what the good people of this great state expect from their justices and that's not what they're going to find from justice Gableman."

Both candidates claim to have signed a clean campaign pledge, although each differs on whether the other has signed the correct pledge.

Election for the state Supreme Court office is April 1.

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For Immediate Release: March 7, 2008
Contact: Darrin Schmitz (608) 661-0777

Prosecutors say Judge Gableman Best Choice for Supreme Court

Law enforcement's choice for Supreme Court picks up 5 more front-line prosecutors

[Burnett County, Wisc….] Judge Gableman's campaign for Supreme Court today announced the endorsements of 5 front-line prosecutors as his campaign adds to the growing list of law enforcement officials backing the Burnett County Circuit Court Judge for the state's highest court.

Sauk County District Attorney Pat Barrett was joined by 4 Assistant District Attorneys in announcing their support of Judge Gableman. Judge Gableman has nearly twice as many endorsements from district attorneys as his opponent, incumbent Justice Louis Butler.

"I'm honored to have the support of Pat and a bi-partisan majority of district attorneys from all corners of Wisconsin," Judge Gableman said. "As a former district attorney, I appreciate the difficult job they do to administer justice and protect our families. Law enforcement, like many people, understands the importance of this race and the stark contrast in judicial philosophies between me and my opponent."

Joining Sauk County District Attorney Pat Barrett in announcing their endorsements of Judge Gableman were 4 front-line prosecutors;

- Thomas Coaty, Brown County Assistant District Attorney
- Daniel Gabler, Milwaukee County Assistant District Attorney
- Amy Flottmeyer, Monroe County Assistant District Attorney
- Bruce Becker, Milwaukee County Assistant District Attorney

Judge Gableman is the only candidate for the Supreme Court with prosecutorial experience. His opponent was a long-time criminal defense lawyer who ran for the Court in 2000 and lost by a 2-1 margin. He was appointed to the Court in 2004.

Butler's appointment to the Court and subsequent activist votes have resulted in a series of controversial criminal case rulings and opinions, as well as establishing a record that includes voting with criminals in nearly 60 percent of the cases before the Supreme Court:

State v. Stenklyft: Butler's vote reversed a state law that gave prosecutors the right to veto an inmate's petition for early release. The ruling prohibits prosecutors from using this tool to keep violent criminals, drug dealers, sex offenders and other criminals from being released early.

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Authorized and paid for by Gableman for Supreme Court, James Zeiler, treasurer

For Immediate Release: March 6, 2007
Contact: Darrin Schmitz (608) 661-0777

THE GWC SMEAR AD

GWC flailing to distract voters from Butler's record; Butler votes handcuff law enforcement

[Burnett County, Wisc….] The Gableman for Supreme Court campaign today released the entire list of Judge Gableman's cases that have been appealed, which demonstrate the Greater Wisconsin Committee's (GWC) ad "Bottom" to be patently false.

The new GWC television ad states, *"And Gableman's decisions are ruled incorrect and overturned by higher courts about 1/3 of the time."*

Judge Gableman's actual record and reversal rate is as follows:

- 23,545 cases presided over.
- 44 cases have been appealed.
- Of the 44 appealed cases:
  - 23 cases affirmed.
  - 13 cases dismissed.
  - 6 cases reversed.
  - 2 cases affirmed in part/reversed in part.

Judge Gableman has been reversed 6 times in 23,544 cases (.02%). Even of the 44 appealed cases, 77% of them have been affirmed and only 13% have been reversed – not 33% as the GWC falsely claims.

Darrin Schmitz, Gableman for Supreme Court campaign consultant, said the GWC is purposefully peddling a lie regarding Judge Gableman's record because Louis Butler's anti-law enforcement decisions are indefensible.

"Louis Butler cannot defend his decision to strip prosecutors of the ability to keep dangerous inmates behind bars or his vote to ban police officers from asking a witness to ID a suspect near a crime scene," said Schmitz. "The men and women of law enforcement should be the ones doing the handcuffing. But Louis Butler has handcuffed their efforts to fight crime with activist rulings and legal loopholes."

Louis Butler was a criminal defense lawyer before becoming a judge and was appointed to the state's highest court after losing the 2000 Supreme Court election by a 2-1 margin. His appointment and subsequent activist votes resulted in a series of controversial criminal case rulings and opinions:

State v. Stenklyft: Butler's vote reversed a state law that gave prosecutors the right to veto an inmate's petition for early release. The ruling prohibits prosecutors from using this tool to keep violent criminals, drug dealers, sex offenders and other criminals from being released early.

State v. Dubose: Butler's vote prohibited law enforcement from asking crime victims and witnesses to identify a suspect at or near a crime scene unless it was "necessary". His decision makes it more difficult for police officers to investigate crimes.

-more-

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	Affirmed	Dismissed	Denied	Reversed	Affirmed Reversed Remanded		
2003							
St v McCormack 87CF112			Supervisory writ denied 2-19-03				1
St v Larry Devlin 02CF83			Leave to appeal denied 2-26-03				2
Lyman v Yourchuck 02CV22			Leave to appeal denied 3-05-03				3
Ellis v Pet Store 02SC276		7-22-03 lack of jurisdiction					4
St v Renee Mosay 98CT32	11-11-03						5
St v McCormack 87CF112	11-25-03						6
2004	**Affirmed**	**Dismissed**	**Denied**	**Reversed**	**Affirmed Reversed Remanded**		
Stadler v Stadler 02FA31	3-02-04						7
St v Michael Marion 02CT74		4-12-04					8
Stanford v Nextel 02SC313				4-13-04			9
St v Randy Lunde 02CF39		Voluntary Dismissal 7-30-04					10
St v Curtis Johnson 03FO96	8-24-04						11

2004 cont.	Affirmed	Dismissed	Denied	Reversed	Affirmed Reversed Remanded		
St v Jackie Pardun 02CF154 03CM444 consolidated	10-12-04						12
Kudlick v Bivens 02CV117	12-21-04						13
2005	**Affirmed**	**Dismissed**	**Denied**	**Reversed**	**Affirmed Reversed Remanded**		
Budge v Tetrault 04SC329		Voluntary Dismissal 1-28-05					14
Lyman v Yourchuck 02CV22					3-29-05		15
Pearson v Cobb 02CV200					5-17-05		16
St v Dana Stadler 02CF59		6-15-05					17
Graves v Johnson 04FA12		Voluntary Dismissal 6-16-05					18
St v Rick Haner 04CF65		Voluntary Dismissal 9-26-05					19
St v Rodney Opperud 03CF50 03CF51 consolidated				Reversed and remanded 11-15-05			20
Burnett Cty v Tera L R 05TP1				11-22-05			21
St v David Diver	12-20-05						22

04CF37							
2006	**Affirmed**	**Dismissed**	**Denied**	**Reversed**	**Affirmed Reversed Remanded**		
St v Darren Merrill 04CT89	1-10-06						23
St v Larry Livingston 03CF99	1-10-06						24
May v Bonngard 03CV201	1-18-06						25
Cummings v Cummings 04FA27	1-24-06						26
St v McCormack 87CF112	3-14-06						27
Ritcey v Ritcey 02FA131	5-23-06						28
St v Judy Garbow 99CT66	5-23-06						29
Drake v Burnett Cty 04CV110	5-31-06						30
Holmgreen v Hulleman 04CV74	6-13-06						31
Bowman v Pekkala 05FA4	7-05-06						32
Burnett Cty v Scott Snyder 05TR1523		Delinquency dismissal 7-13-06					33
Gatten v Perket 98PA64				7-18-06			34
St v Larry Gleason 04CT191	8-15-06						35

Burnett Cty v Tera L R 05TP4	11-28-06						36
2007	**Affirmed**	**Dismissed**	**Denied**	**Reversed**	**Affirmed Reversed Remanded**	**Pending**	
Chute v Amica 04CV156				1-30-07			37
St v Kim Miller 05CF68	4-10-07						38
Rechsteiner v Hazelden 05CV137	5-22-07						39
Washburn Cty v Spooner 06CV75		Voluntary dismissal 6-27-07					40
Carpenter v Bown 06CV34		Lack of jurisdiction 7-18-07					41
Burnett Cty v Katherine Larsen 06TR210	8-28-07						42
Wambolt v Jones 03CV03				reversed and remanded 01-09-08			43
St v Perry Staples 06CF68	10-30-07						44

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For Immediate Release: March 4, 2007
Contact: Darrin Schmitz (608) 661-0777

52 SHERIFFS NOW ENDORSE GABLEMAN

Law enforcement's choice has unprecedented support; sheriffs' support 10 times larger than opponent

[Burnett County, Wisc….] The Gableman for Supreme Court campaign today released new law enforcement endorsements including the 52nd sheriff to sign onto Judge Michael Gableman's race for the Wisconsin Supreme Court.

Jefferson County Sheriff Paul Milbrath became the 52nd sheriff to endorse Judge Gableman, joining a bi-partisan list of sheriffs that is more than 10 times larger than his opponent. Justice Butler, according to his website, is endorsed by just five sheriffs. Butler was appointed by Governor Jim Doyle, and was a criminal defense lawyer before becoming a judge. He previously ran for the Supreme Court, losing 65%-35% to then-Justice Diane Sykes.

"I'm honored to have such deep and wide-spread support among law enforcement officials all across Wisconsin," Judge Gableman said. "It's critical to our public safety and security that cases are heard in a fair and impartial manner. That's what I will provide as the next Supreme Court Justice."

Sheriff Milbrath was joined by five police chiefs in endorsing the Burnett County Circuit Court Judge for the state's highest court.

- Police Chief Scott McElroy, Evansville
- Police Chief Dave Wickstrum, Ordville
- Police Chief Mark Flessert, Lannon
- Police Chief Ted Bever, Medford
- Police Chief Robert Dams, Greendale

Judge Gableman is the only candidate for the Supreme Court with a law enforcement background and prosecutorial experience. In addition to the support of the 52 sheriffs, Judge Gableman also has the endorsement of a bi-partisan majority of district attorneys, and a growing list of assistant district attorneys and police chiefs. He is also endorsed by the Wisconsin Sheriffs and Deputy Sheriffs Association.

A quick comparison between the two candidates based on endorsements listed on their Web sites and announcements:

	Gableman	**Butler**
Sheriffs	52	5
District Attorneys	37	20
Police Chiefs	22	0
Assistant District Attorneys	19	0
TOTAL LAW ENFORCEMENT	**130**	**25**

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Friday, FEB 29, 2008

Gableman campaign issues statement on GWC attack ad

BURNETT COUNTY – The campaign of Supreme Court candidate Judge Michael Gableman recently released a statement regarding the smear television ads launched by a shadowy special interest group known as the Greater Wisconsin Committee.

The following statement is from former – Gov. Scott McCallum:

"It's critical to Wisconsin's public safety and economic health that judges apply the law and not legislate from the bench. And as governor, the final decision to appoint a judge was mine alone and not an advisory committee's.

"I wanted the best candidate available. I knew Judge Gableman as a successful front-line prosecutor and district attorney, and it was my desire to ensure a 'traditionalist' judge who respects the law sat on the Burnett County Circuit Court.

"My decision was affirmed by the voters in Burnett County when Judge Gableman won his judicial election with 78 percent of the vote against one of the committee's recommended applicants."

The negative television ads, the first television ads of the Supreme Court race, was launched yesterday by GWC in the Green Bay and Milwaukee media markets.

"It looks like Louis Butler sent his liberal, special interest friends to do his dirty work for him," said Gableman spokesperson Darrin Schmitz. "The Butler camp knows they can't win on issues voters care about like law enforcement, so they are already starting their smear campaign."

About the Greater Wisconsin Committee: The Greater Wisconsin Committee is a shadowy group, which launches smear campaigns that mislead voters and do not pass the truth test.

• Doyle's longtime political consultant, Bill Christofferson, is the Greater Wisconsin Committee's consultant.

• The Greater Wisconsin Committee launched last-minute false advertising in the 2006 attorney general's race in which they mislead voters on the case of Stanley Newago, who murdered a 16-year-old girl.

• The Greater Wisconsin Committee's spokesperson, Michelle McGrorty, was given immunity from prosecution for her actions associated with the case against state Sen. Chuck Chvala.-submitted

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Updated Feb 20, 2008 - 15:46:00 CST

AP-STATE-WI

Gableman campaign accuses group of showing bias toward Butler

No comments posted.

By RYAN J. FOLEY
Wednesday, February 20, 2008 3:46 PM CST

MADISON, Wis. - Judge Michael Gableman's campaign for the Wisconsin Supreme Court on Wednesday accused a new group monitoring the race of being biased in favor of his opponent.

Gableman campaign adviser Darrin Schmitz asked the Judicial Campaign Integrity Committee to stop participating in the race in which Gableman is trying to unseat Justice Louis Butler.

He cited e-mails made public
Wednesday in which committee members blast the tactics of Schmitz and other GOP operatives, calling them "mercenaries" and a "demon." In another e-mail, a member appears to give Butler campaign advice.

The e-mails "not only reinforce my concern that the WJCIC is biased, but that it is now plainly obvious that the committee is purposefully hostile to Judge Gableman," Schmitz wrote in a letter to its chairman, Tom Basting.

Basting, president of the State Bar of Wisconsin, created the committee to act as a nonpartisan referee before the April election for a 10-year seat on the court. He said he wanted to protect the judiciary from a trend toward expensive and negative campaigns fueled by special interests.

State Bar spokesman Tom Solberg said the committee was still reviewing the letter and drafting a response.

The committee challenged both candidates to run their campaigns according to the Judicial Code of Conduct and avoid false and misleading statements. Butler has signed the pledge, while Gableman, a Burnett County circuit judge, has refused.

Basting rebuked Gableman's campaign in December for accusing Butler of siding with criminals over law enforcement in his rulings. Gableman has defended the statement.

Conservative bloggers and radio hosts have claimed for weeks that the nine-member committee is biased. Among other things, they note member and former Democratic Gov. Tony Earl donated $100 to Butler in 2000.

While the race is officially nonpartisan, Gableman is aligned with Republicans and Butler is backed by Democrats.

E-mails obtained by the Wisconsin Club For Growth under the open records law detail the group's inner workings. They show member Bill Kraus, a former aide to Republican Gov. Lee Sherman Dreyfus, was frustrated that Gableman had refused to sign the pledge.

"Someone--maybe me--should also question the advice he is getting and even the mercenaries he's getting it from if he doesn't take the pledge," he wrote to group members.

In another e-mail, he called Schmitz "the legitimate child of the demon (GOP operative) R.J. Johnson." Johnson does work for the Club for Growth.

Dave Deininger, a retired judge who has since resigned from the committee, also blasted Gableman's adviser after he felt Schmitz mischaracterized the group's rebuke of Gableman.

"This type of blatant spin is, I'm afraid, par for his course," he wrote.

E-mails show the committee decided not to take any action after Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce, the state's business lobby that is backing Gableman, posted a video online in which a Marquette University professor blasts Butler's rulings.

MORE AP-STATE-WI

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- Wisconsin dairy exports up 131 percent
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Shirley Irene Gygi *(669)*
Bloomer residents get in line early to see Obama *(656)*
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MOST COMMENTED STORIES

- Kreitlow's amendment to delay the smoking ban until 2011 fails (96)
- Doctor: We all pay for smokers (84)
- Welcome to Hey Neighbor! This time we are featuring the Village of Lake Hallie. (68)
- Sheriff's Department mourns death of Deputy Zunker (47)
- Report: Driver confused in Zunker accident (46)
- Local legislators weigh statewide smoking ban (34)
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But Kraus wrote that the video created an opportunity for Butler's campaign.

"Butler can talk about the professor's oversimplifications and about the megaphone supplied by WMC and take the boost that gives him without mentioning his opponent," Kraus wrote. "And, of course, he can also use the platform this attack provides to talk about what the campaign is really about and his own virtues."

Butler spokeswoman Erin Celello said the campaign never received any advice from Kraus. She said the real issue is Gableman's failure to sign the pledge.

"It's clear that he's given no instruction to his campaign to follow it," she said.

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For Immediate Release: February 14, 2008
Contact: Darrin Schmitz (608) 661-0777

Wisconsin Sheriffs and Deputy Sheriffs Association Endorses Law Enforcement's Choice – Judge Gableman

Statewide sheriffs' association endorses the only candidate with prosecution experience

[Burnett County, Wisc….] Judge Mike Gableman, already endorsed by the majority of district attorneys and sheriffs in the state, today was endorsed by the Wisconsin Sheriffs and Deputy Sheriffs Association.

The Wisconsin Sheriffs and Deputy Sheriffs Association has 3000 members and has been serving the public and the law enforcement community for 55 years.

"Mike Gableman is an extremely hard working, but fair, judge," said Ozaukee County Sheriff Maury Straub. "It is obvious that Judge Gableman adheres to the law, not any personal political agenda," said Straub, who also serves as vice-president of the Wisconsin Sheriffs & Deputy Sheriffs Association (WSDSA). "Judge Gableman has not and will not legislate from the bench of Wisconsin's highest appellate court, as some might want him to do."

Sheriff Straub added, "Unlike some folks in the judicial arena, Judge Gableman understands that it is law enforcement's job to protect society on a daily basis from violent sexual predators, drug pushers, and a whole host of other extremely bad actors."

Judge Gableman, who enjoys the endorsement of a bi-partisan majority of Wisconsin's district attorneys and sheriffs, welcomed the endorsement.

"I'm honored to have the endorsement of the men and women who are charged with keeping our families safe from harm," Judge Gableman said. "Each day these law enforcement leaders face possible danger and life-threatening situations in their difficult jobs. They epitomize public service with their dedication and I'm proud to stand with them."

Gableman is the only candidate for the Supreme Court with a law enforcement background. Louis Butler, who was appointed by Governor Jim Doyle, was a criminal defense lawyer before becoming a judge. Butler previously ran for the Supreme Court, losing 65%-35% to then-Justice Diane Sykes.

Prior to his experience on the bench, Judge Gableman was appointed District Attorney for Ashland County (1999) by Governor Tommy G. Thompson and subsequently won election to the position. As District Attorney, he was the lead prosecutor on cases as diverse as arson, sexual assault, domestic violence, and white collar crimes. He also served as a front-line prosecutor in Marathon County (1997-1999) and Langlade County (1996-1997) as an Assistant District Attorney.

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P.O. Box 2598, Madison, WI 53701-2598
www.gablemanforsupremecourt.com
Authorized and paid for by Gableman for Supreme Court, James Zeiler, treasurer

Wisconsin Sheriffs & Deputy Sheriffs Association
Political Action Committee

Sheriff Maury Straub – Ozaukee County, Vice President (262) 284-8430
Jim Cardinal, Executive Director, P.O. Box 145, Chippewa Falls, Wi., 54792 (715) 723-7173

For Immediate Release: February 14, 2008

Wisconsin Sheriffs & Deputy Sheriffs Association PAC Endorses Judge Mike Gableman for Wisconsin Supreme Court

CHIPPEWA FALLS, WI. --- **The *Wisconsin Sheriffs & Deputy Sheriffs Association Political Action Committee*** placed its full and powerful support behind Burnett County Circuit Judge Mike Gableman today when it endorsed his candidacy for a position on the Wisconsin Supreme Court.

"Mike Gableman is an extremely hard working, but fair, judge," said Ozaukee County Sheriff Maury Straub.

- For example, during the last five-plus years on the bench, Judge Gableman presided over nearly 23,000 cases.
- Only 44 of those cases were appealed, and
- Just five of the nearly 23,000 decisions were reversed outright, a mere .02 percent.

"It is obvious that Judge Gableman adheres to the law, not any personal political agenda," said Straub, who also serves as vice-president of the Wisconsin Sheriffs & Deputy Sheriffs Association (WSDSA). "Judge Gableman has not and will not legislate from the bench of Wisconsin's highest appellate court, as some might want him to do.

"Unlike some folks in the judicial arena, Judge Gableman understands that it is law enforcement's job to protect society on a daily basis from violent sexual predators, drug pushers, and a whole host of other extremely bad actors" said Straub, the veteran sheriff from southeastern Wisconsin.

- He has tried diverse cases dealing with arson, sexual assault, domestic violence, and white collar crimes.
- Over the years he demonstrated that he has been the guy who gets results for the general public interest by protecting our families, neighborhoods, schools, and communities."

"Further more, Wisconsin voters can trust that Judge Gableman won't look for loopholes for criminals to wiggle through," said Sheriff Straub.

- At the same time Judge Gableman has been recognized over the years for developing innovative programs which emphasize personal responsibility and maximize accountability, like the Inmate Community Service and Restorative Justice Programs.
- Judge Gableman also knows the value of operating a county drug and alcohol court.

"We're also highly impressed with Judge Mike Gableman's extensive prior law enforcement experiences as a criminal prosecutor," said Sheriff Straub.

- As a former front-line prosecutor in Ashland, Langlade and Marathon counties, Mike Gableman has vast experience fighting violent crime.

Mike Gableman also served as a law clerk for the United States Attorney's Office, where he helped prepare federal criminal cases for prosecution and defend the government's arguments on appeal.

- Upon graduation from law school he also clerked for judges in Brown County, WI.

"Mike Gableman has the support of 51 of Wisconsin's 72 county sheriffs – including both Democrats and Republicans - from every corner of Wisconsin. Mike has earned our highest respect, and we proudly add our stamp of approval as well," Straub said.

- This is on top of thousands of local, state and federal rank and file correctional officers, deputies, troopers, wardens, and other law enforcement officers supporting Gableman.
- Mike Gableman has also earned the respect of a clear majority of Wisconsin's district attorneys, a total of 37, and numerous other judges and police chiefs from through out our state.

Straub noted that after Judge Gableman was appointed to the Burnett County Circuit Court in 2002 he was overwhelmingly elected to the bench in 2003 with 78% of the vote. Sheriff Straub went on to say that "as our next Supreme Court Justice, Judge Gableman will work in a collegial manner with other members of the court to provide a fair, but firm, judicial system that will result in helping law enforcement to keep Wisconsin communities safe."

Wisconsin Sheriffs & Deputy Sheriffs Association, with over 3,000 members, is the largest county law enforcement association in the state. WSDSA has been serving law enforcement and the public for over 55 years. Its purpose is to promote the general public welfare in the State of Wisconsin through the cooperation of Sheriffs, Deputy Sheriffs and Jail Officers in the performance of their daily duties.

Authorized and paid for by Wisconsin Sheriffs and Deputy Sheriffs Association Political Action Committee, Jim Cardinal, Treasurer

For Immediate Release: February 7, 2008
Contact: Darrin Schmitz (608) 661-0777

51 Sheriffs Now Endorse Judge Gableman

Law Enforcement's Choice for Supreme Court Picks Up Six New Sheriff Endorsements – opponent has been endorsed by just five sheriffs.

[Burnett County, Wisc….] If the top law enforcement leaders in each county had their way, the race for Supreme Court would be a landslide. Six additional Wisconsin sheriffs have joined a growing bi-partisan majority of sheriffs in endorsing law enforcement's choice for the Supreme Court – Judge Michael Gableman.

The six sheriffs endorsing include: Calumet County Sheriff Gerald Pagel; Dunn County Sheriff Dennis Smith; Saint Croix County Sheriff Dennis Hillstead; Taylor County Sheriff Bruce Daniels; Trempealeau County Sheriff Richard Anderson; Walworth County Sheriff Dave Graves.

Today's announcement brings Judge Gableman's total of sheriff endorsements to an overwhelming total of 51.

"I am deeply honored to have the support of so many of Wisconsin's Sheriffs in this race for Supreme Court. Law enforcement is a difficult job and these men deserve respect for what they do to protect our communities each and every day," said Judge Gableman. "Their endorsements mean a great deal and I believe their support shows the momentum we are gaining as we spread our message across the state."

Judge Gableman is the only candidate for the Supreme Court with a law enforcement background and prosecutorial experience. In addition to the support of the 51 sheriffs, Judge Gableman also has the endorsement of the majority of district attorneys, and a growing list of assistant district attorneys and police chiefs.

Justice Butler, according to his website, is endorsed by five sheriffs. He was appointed by Governor Jim Doyle, and was a criminal defense lawyer before becoming a judge. Butler previously ran for the Supreme Court, losing 65%-35% to then-Justice Diane Sykes.

Prior to his circuit court judgeship in Burnett County, Judge Gableman served as Ashland County's district attorney from 1999-2002, where he was the lead prosecutor on cases as diverse as arson, sexual assault, domestic violence, and white collar crimes. He also served as a front-line prosecutor in Marathon County and Langlade County as an assistant district attorney.

The Supreme Court election is April 1.

The following sheriffs have endorsed Judge Gableman for the Supreme Court:

--MORE--

GABLEMAN SHERIFFS – ADD ONE

Brown County Sheriff Dennis Kocken
Buffalo County Sheriff Michael Schmidtknecht
Burnett County Sheriff Dean Roland
Calumet County Sheriff Gerald Pagel
Chippewa County Sheriff James Kowalczyk
Clark County Sheriff Louie Rosandich
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Kenosha County Sheriff David Beth
Kewaunee County Sheriff Matt Joski
La Crosse County Sheriff Steven Helgeson
Lafayette County Sheriff Scott Pedley
Langlade County Sheriff William Greening
Lincoln County Sheriff Jeffrey Jaeger
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St. Croix County Sheriff Dennis Hillstead
Taylor County Sheriff Bruce Daniels
Trempealeau County Sheriff Richard Anderson
Vernon County Sheriff Gene Cary
Vilas County Sheriff John Niebuhr
Walworth County Sheriff Dave Graves
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Washington County Sheriff Dale Schmidt
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Waupaca County Sheriff Brad Hardel
Waushara County Sheriff David Peterson
Winnebago County Sheriff Michael Brooks

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Feb 7, 5:49 PM EST

Municipalities barred from joining lawsuit over gay rights

By SCOTT BAUER
Associated Press Writer

MADISON, Wis. (AP) -- The question of whether the state should provide benefits to same-sex partners wasn't decided in a split-decision ruling Thursday by the Wisconsin Supreme Court.

But in the course of barring eight municipalities from joining the lawsuit, court members lashed out at one another in sharply written separate opinions.

Chief Justice Shirley Abrahamson, writing for the four-member majority, accused the three justices in the minority of stirring "the cauldron of hot-button issues" with a dissent addressing abortion, the influence of the American Civil Liberties Union and gay rights.

The Supreme Court's ruling simply upheld two lower courts' decisions preventing eight Wisconsin municipalities from joining a lawsuit filed against the state in 2005. It was brought by 12 current or former state employees and the ACLU.

The municipalities were Green Bay, Watertown, Oostburg, Cottage Grove, Caledonia, Hobart and the school boards of New Berlin and Raymond School District No. 14.

The lawsuit claims the state's refusal to provide health insurance to the gay employees' partners violates the equal protection clause of the Wisconsin Constitution. The employees argue that their rights are violated because only heterosexual workers can receive health insurance, sick leave and family leave benefits for their spouses.

The lawsuit, which names several state agencies as defendants and seeks an order requiring them to provide the benefits, has yet to be ruled on in any court.

Gay rights opponents have argued that if the workers prevail, the case could lay the groundwork for overturning the state's marriage laws. Wisconsin voters approved a constitutional amendment in 2006 defining marriage as being between one man and one woman.

In Thursday's 91-page ruling, the justices went far-afield from the underlying issue.

In the dissent, Justice David Prosser questioned the legitimacy of the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling in the Roe v. Wade case that legalized abortion.

In response, Abrahamson accused Prosser and the two other justices in the minority - Annette Ziegler and Pat Roggensack - of turning to "political considerations and appeals to emotions."

The case at hand is about procedure, Abrahamson said: The court does not even come close to addressing the issue of whether gay state workers should have benefits equal to heterosexuals.

Prosser argued in the dissent that the case was not about procedure but rather "one of the great social and political controversies of our time."

Michael Dean, a lawyer representing the municipalities, said the ruling is "cold comfort" to municipalities and school boards across the state that could be affected by the case. He said an argument will be submitted, but the impact will be muted since the court won't let the municipalities be an actual party to the case.

Larry Dupuis, legal director of the ACLU of Wisconsin, said he was relieved by the decision.

"The judicial system would grind to a halt if everyone who was concerned about an issue had a right to get involved as a party," he said.

Abrahamson was joined in the majority by justices Louis Butler, Patrick Crooks and Ann Walsh Bradley.

Butler, who is up for election, felt compelled to write his own concurring opinion to the majority. He is being challenged for a seat on the court by Burnett County Circuit Judge Michael Gableman, a self-professed conservative. The election is April 1.

Butler argued the nature of the underlying lawsuit was irrelevant. The real issue, he wrote, is whether the court should allow outside groups to intervene in lawsuits merely because they have an interest in the outcome.

The case could result in every pro- and anti-gay rights group - both nationally and in state - political leaders, church groups, social conservatives and others attempting to join, Butler said.

Allowing the municipalities to intervene would only open the door to "large organizations with deep pockets" joining lawsuits to argue their interests, Butler said. It would drive up costs to the point that "the average Joe can no longer afford to be heard," he said.

Gableman has accused Butler of being an activist judge who has attempted to reinterpret state law with his rulings.

"I know that the court, from this case, acted in a limited way," said Sachin Chheda, Butler's campaign director. "If somebody has a problem with the court acting in a limited way, then they're arguing for a more activist court."

Gableman's campaign adviser Darrin Schmitz said the case could have a profound impact on Wisconsin.

"We're not surprised by Louis Butler's vote," he said.

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For Immediate Release: January 28, 2008 Contact: Darrin Schmitz (608) 661-0777

Majority of District Attorneys Endorse "Law Enforcement's Choice for the Court" – Judge Mike Gableman

First Sheriffs and now DAs; Frontline prosecutors and law enforcement back Judge Gableman

[Burnett County, Wisc….] A bipartisan majority of Wisconsin District Attorneys have endorsed Judge Mike Gableman for the Supreme Court, as his campaign today announced the endorsements of six additional district attorneys.

A bipartisan total of 37 district attorneys are backing Judge Gableman. The new endorsements include Crawford County DA Tim Baxter, Calumet County DA Ken Kratz; Green Lake County DA Winn Collins; Outagamie County DA Carrie Schneider; Richland County DA Andrew Sharp; and Menominee/Shawano Counties DA Greg Parker.

Judge Gableman, who is also endorsed by a bipartisan majority of sheriffs, welcomed the support of Wisconsin's top county prosecutors.

"Having served as a front-line prosecutor, I understand the difficult job our district attorneys do to uphold the law and to keep our loved ones safe," said Judge Gableman. "It's an honor to have the majority of sheriffs and district attorneys endorsing my campaign."

The following district attorneys have endorsed Judge Gableman:

Adams County DA Mark Thibodeau
Ashland County DA Sean Duffy
Barron County DA Angela Holmstrom
Bayfield County DA H. Craig Haukass
Calumet County DA Ken Kratz
Chippewa County DA John Theisen
Crawford County DA Tim Baxter
Dodge County DA Steve Bauer
Dunn County DA James Peterson
Florence County DA Doug Drexler
Forest County DA Leon Stenz
Green County DA Gary Luhman
Green Lake County DA Winn Collins
Iron County DA Martin Lipske
Jefferson County DA David Wambach
Juneau County DA Scott Southworth
Langlade County DA Ralph Uttke
Marinette County DA Brent DeBord
Marquette County DA Richard Dufour
Menominee County DA Greg Parker
Monroe County DA Dan Cary
Outagamie County DA Carrie Schneider
Ozaukee County DA Sandy Williams
Racine County DA Michael Nieskes
Richland County DA Andrew Sharp
Rusk County DA Kathleen Pakes
St. Croix County DA Eric Johnson
Sawyer County DA Thomas Van Roy
Shawano County DA Greg Parker
Taylor County DA Karl Kelz
Vernon County DA Tim Gaskell
Vilas County DA Al Moustakis
Washburn County DA Mike Bitney
Washington County DA Todd Martens
Waukesha County DA Brad Schimel
Waushara County DA Scott Blader
Winnebago County DA Christian Gossett
Wood County DA Todd Wolf

Prior to serving as a circuit court judge, Gableman served as Ashland County District Attorney where he prosecuted cases as diverse as arson, sexual assault, domestic violence, and white collar crimes. He also served as a front-line prosecutor in Marathon County and Langlade County as an assistant district attorney.

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Authorized and paid for by Gableman for Supreme Court, James Zeiler, treasurer

For Immediate Release: January 21, 2008
Contact: Darrin Schmitz (608) 661-0777

Congressmen Sensenbrenner, Petri, and Ryan Endorse Judge Gableman for Supreme Court

Wisconsin Congressmen say Judge Gableman has "the experience and perspective the high court needs."

[Burnett County, Wisc….] Three members of Wisconsin's Congressional Delegation threw their support behind Judge Michael Gableman today in the race for Supreme Court. U.S. Representatives Jim Sensenbrenner Thomas Petri, and Paul Ryan all signed on to endorse the Burnett County judge, citing his strong law-enforcement background and common-sense approach to the law.

"I'm proud to endorse a candidate for Wisconsin Supreme Court who understands the important role of the judiciary is to apply, but not make, the law," said Congressman Sensenbrenner, the former chairman of the House Judiciary Committee. "I've seen too many judges in recent years bring a political agenda with them to the bench. I'm confident Judge Gableman will be a justice, not a legislator."

"Judge Gableman is exactly the kind of judge we need for the Supreme Court here in Wisconsin," said Congressman Paul Ryan. "As a former prosecutor, he's dedicated much of his life to keep our neighborhoods a safe place to raise a family. Wisconsin voters can trust the Judge Gableman won't look for loopholes for criminals to crawl through."

Judge Gableman served as a district attorney before assuming the role of Burnett Circuit Court Judge, and is the only candidate with law enforcement experience running for Supreme Court.

"Judge Gableman's extensive and impressive background sets him apart. His work as a prosecutor, private practice attorney, judge and a teacher gives him a unique and diverse set of experiences that form a great foundation for serving on our state's highest court," said Congressman Tom Petri. "The Wisconsin Supreme Court will surely benefit by adding a judge of such character and integrity."

-MORE-

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Authorized and paid for by Gableman for Supreme Court, James Zeiler, treasurer

These three congressmen join an impressive list of Judge Gableman's supporters throughout Wisconsin. Judge Gableman currently has the endorsement of a bipartisan majority of Wisconsin's sheriffs and a majority of district attorneys, police chiefs and assistant district attorneys who have endorsed in the race for the Supreme Court.

"I am humbled by the support of these distinguished members of Congress," said Judge Gableman. "They work hard to serve the citizens of Wisconsin and set a great example for all of us who wish to do the same. I am honored to have their endorsements."

Judge Gableman was appointed Burnett County Circuit Court in 2002 and was overwhelmingly elected to the bench in 2003 with 78% of the vote. A law-and-order judge, he has been recognized for developing innovative programs which emphasize personal responsibility and maximize accountability.

Prior to his experience on the bench, Judge Gableman was appointed District Attorney for Ashland County (1999) by Governor Tommy G. Thompson and subsequently won election to the position. As District Attorney, he was the lead prosecutor on cases as diverse as arson, sexual assault, domestic violence, and white collar crimes. He also served as a front-line prosecutor in Marathon County (1997-1999) and Langlade County (1996-1997) as an Assistant District Attorney.

The Supreme Court election will be April 1, 2008.

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For Immediate Release: January 16, 2008
Contact: Darrin Schmitz (608) 661-0777

Law Enforcement Leaders Continue to Line Up Behind Judge Gableman

Only candidate for Supreme Court with law enforcement experience backed by additional sheriffs, district attorney.

[Burnett County, Wisc….] Judge Gableman's campaign for Supreme Court announced the endorsements of three additional law enforcement officials today. Sauk County Sheriff Randy Stammen, Winnebago County Sheriff Michael Brooks, and Dunn County District Attorney James Peterson have all added their names to the growing list of Gableman supporters.

Judge Gableman's bid for the Supreme Court has already garnered the endorsement of a bipartisan majority of Wisconsin's sheriffs, as well as a majority of district attorneys, police chiefs and assistant district attorneys who have endorsed in the race for the Supreme Court.

"To have the endorsement of so many of Wisconsin's top law enforcement officials is truly an honor," said Judge Gableman. "These men and women work hard every day to keep our communities safe and I am grateful for their support."

Gableman, a former district attorney, is the only candidate for the Supreme Court with a law enforcement background. Gableman's opponent was a long-time criminal defense lawyer.

Judge Gableman now has the endorsement of 45 Wisconsin sheriffs including:

Brown County Sheriff Dennis Kocken
Buffalo County Sheriff Michael Schmidtknecht
BurnettCounty Sheriff Dean Roland
Chippewa County Sheriff James Kowalczyk
Clark County Sheriff Louie Rosandich
Columbia County Sheriff Dennis Richards
Crawford County Sheriff Jerry Moran
Dodge County Sheriff Todd Nehls
Door County Sheriff Terry Vogel
Douglas County Sheriff Thomas Dalbec
Eau Claire County Sheriff Ron Cramer
Florence County Sheriff Jeff Rickaby
Forest County Sheriff Keith Van Cleve
Grant County Sheriff Keith Govier

-MORE-

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Green County Sheriff Randy Roderick
Green Lake County Sheriff Mark Podoll
Iowa County Sheriff Steven Michek
Iron County Sheriff Robert Bruneau
Jackson County Sheriff DeWayne Waldera
Kenosha County Sheriff David Beth
Kewaunee County Sheriff Matt Joski
La Crosse County Sheriff Steven Helgeson
Lafayette County Sheriff Scott Pedley
Langlade County Sheriff William Greening
Lincoln County Sheriff Jeffrey Jaeger
Marinette County Sheriff Jim Kanikula
Marquette County Sheriff Kim Gaffney
Monroe County Sheriff Dennis Pedersen
OcontoCounty Sheriff Mike Jansen
Ozaukee County Sheriff Maury Straub
Pepin County Sheriff John Andrews
Pierce County Sheriff Nancy Hove
Racine County Sheriff Robert Carlson
Rusk County Sheriff David Kaminski
Sauk County Sheriff Randy Stammen
Sawyer County Sheriff James Meier
Shawano County Sheriff Randy Wright
Vernon County Sheriff Gene Cary
Vilas County Sheriff John Niebuhr
Washburn County Sheriff Terry Dryden
Washington County Sheriff Dale Schmidt
Waukesha County Sheriff Daniel Trawicki
Waupaca County Sheriff Brad Hardel
Waushara County Sheriff David Peterson
Winnebago County Sheriff Michael Brooks

A total of 31 district attorneys have endorsed:

Adams County District Attorney Mark Thibodeau
Ashland County District Attorney Sean Duffy
Barron County District Attorney Angela Holmstrom
Bayfield County District Attorney H. Craig Haukass
Chippewa County District Attorney John Theisen
Dodge County District Attorney Steve Bauer
Dunn County District Attorney James Peterson
Florence County District Attorney Doug Drexler
Forest County District Attorney Leon Stenz
Green County District Attorney Gary Luhman
Iron County District Attorney Martin Lipske
Jefferson County District Attorney David Wambach
Juneau County District Attorney Scott Southworth
Langlade County District Attorney Ralph Uttke
Marinette County District Attorney Brent DeBord
Marquette County District Attorney Richard Dufour
Monroe County District Attorney Dan Cary
Ozaukee County District Attorney Sandy Williams
Racine County District Attorney Michael Nieskes
Rusk County District Attorney Kathleen Pakes
Sawyer County District Attorney Thomas Van Roy
St. Croix County District Attorney Eric Johnson
Taylor County District Attorney Karl Kelz
Vernon County District Attorney Tim Gaskell
Vilas County District Attorney Al Moustakis
Washburn County District Attorney Mike Bitney
Washington County District Attorney Todd Martens
Waukesha County District Attorney Brad Schimel
Waushara County District Attorney Scott Blader
Winnebago County District Attorney Christian Gossett
Wood County District Attorney Todd Wolf

Judge Gableman also has the endorsement of 18 assistant district attorneys and of 20 police chiefs from across the state:

Ashland County Assistant District Attorney Dan Goglin
Barron County Assistant District Attorney James Babbitt
Dane County Assistant District Attorney Robert Kaiser
Kenosha County Assistant District Attorney Jeff Rossell

-MORE-

Langlade County Assistant District Attorney Scott Moller
Ozaukee County Assistant District Attorney Jeff Sisley
Racine County Assistant District Attorney James Newlun
Rock County Assistant District Attorney Daniel Niedfeldt
Rock County Assistant District Attorney Gerald Urbik
Rock County Assistant District Attorney Mary Bricco
Rock County Assistant District Attorney Perry Folts
Rock County Assistant District Attorney Raymond Jablonski
Rock County Assistant District Attorney Richard Sullivan
Waukesha County Assistant District Attorney Kevin Osborne
Waukesha County Assistant District Attorney Mark Powers
Waukesha County Assistant District Attorney Pablo Galaviz
Waukesha County Assistant District Attorney Susan Opper

Amery Police Chief Tom Marson
Antigo Police Chief William Brandt
Balsam Lake Police Chief Sheryl Gehrman
Grantsburg Police Chief Jeff Schinzing
Green Bay Police Chief James Arts
Greendale Police Chief Robert Dams
Janesville Police Chief Neil Mahan
La Pointe Police Chief Michael Anderson
Ladysmith Police Chief Dean Meyer
Luck Police Chief Daniel Deiss
Mellen Police Chief Peter Ellias
Milltown Police Chief Andrew Anderson
Oconomowoc Police Chief Dave Beguhn
Osceola Police Chief Tim Lauridsen
Siren Police Chief Chris Sybers
Spooner Police Chief Robert Andrea
Sturtevant Police Chief Sean Marschke
Webster Police Chief Mike Spafford
Wisconsin Dells Police Chief Bret Anderson

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For Immediate Release: January 9, 2008
Contact: Darrin Schmitz (608) 661-0777

More Police Chiefs Endorse Judge Gableman

Chiefs of Police throughout Wisconsin throw their support behind only candidate for Supreme Court with a law enforcement background.

[Burnett County, Wisc….] Judge Michael Gableman's campaign for Supreme Court announced the endorsements of five more police chiefs today. They join an impressive list of law enforcement leaders from throughout the state who are throwing their support to Judge Gableman.

Wisconsin Dells Chief of Police Bret Anderson, Sturtevant Chief of Police Sean Marschke, Ladysmith Chief of Police Dean Meyer, Grantsburg Chief of Police Jeff Schinzing and Siren Chief of Police Chris Sybers join 12 chiefs of police who had previously endorsed Judge Gableman.

Judge Gableman, who served as a district attorney prior to becoming a judge, is the only candidate for the Supreme Court with prosecutorial experience. The other candidate for the court was a long-time criminal defense lawyer.

"I am incredibly honored to have the support of these brave police chiefs in my run for the state's highest court," said Judge Gableman. "I believe the job of a Supreme Court justice is to apply the plain meaning of the law to the specific facts of a case – not to look for loopholes to put criminals back on our streets."

Prior to his circuit court judgeship in Burnett County, Gableman served as Ashland County's district attorney from 1999 to 2002, where he was the lead prosecutor on cases as diverse as arson, sexual assault, domestic violence, and white collar crimes. He also served as a front-line prosecutor in Marathon County and Langlade County as an assistant district attorney.

Judge Gableman has quickly become the choice of most law enforcement professionals in Wisconsin. He has already been endorsed by a bipartisan majority of Wisconsin's sheriffs. Gableman also has the support of a majority of district attorneys and assistant district attorneys who have endorsed in the Supreme Court race.

The Supreme Court election will be April 1, 2008.

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For Immediate Release: January 3, 2008
Contact: Darrin Schmitz (608) 661-0777

Front-line Prosecutors, Sheriffs Endorse Judge Gableman

Sheriffs and district attorneys sign on to support Judge Gableman for Wisconsin Supreme Court

[Burnett County, Wisc….] Just hours after Judge Gableman filed his nomination papers for the Wisconsin Supreme Court to secure his place on the April ballot, the judge's campaign announced the support of several more law enforcement leaders, including additional district attorneys, assistant district attorneys and another sheriff.

Since announcing his candidacy, a total a bipartisan majority of forty-two sheriffs have endorsed Judge Gableman. Additionally, a notable list of 30 district attorneys, and a growing numbers of assistant district attorneys and police chiefs are lining up to support the Burnett County judge.

"We're entering the New Year with huge momentum on our side," said Judge Gableman. "It's an honor to have the support of front-line prosecutors and law enforcement officials. The race for the state's highest Court will provide a contrast between judicial philosophies and I'm proud to be law enforcement's choice for the Court."

The following prosecutors and law enforcement officials joined the Gableman campaign:

- David Peterson, Waushara County Sheriff

- Steve Bauer, Dodge County District Attorney
- Doug Drexler, Florence County District Attorney
- Sandy Williams, Ozaukee County District Attorney
- Michael Nieskes, Racine County District Attorney
- Todd Wolf, Wood County District Attorney
- Jeffery Froehlich, Calumet County Assistant District Attorney
- Robert Kaiser, Dane County Assistant District Attorney
- Jason Rossell, Kenosha County Assistant District Attorney
- Jeff Sisley, Ozaukee County Assistant District Attorney
- James Newlun, Racine County Assistant District Attorney

Judge Michael Gableman has a distinguished and wide-ranging legal career serving as a Circuit Court Judge, District Attorney, Assistant District Attorney, Administrative Law Judge, Adjunct Professor of Law, Deputy Corporation Counsel and private practice attorney.

Prior to his experience on the bench, Judge Gableman was appointed District Attorney for Ashland County (1999) by Governor Tommy G. Thompson and subsequently won election to the position. As District Attorney, he was the lead prosecutor on cases as diverse as arson, sexual assault, domestic violence, and white collar crimes. He also served as a front-line prosecutor in Marathon County (1997-1999) and Langlade County (1996-1997) as an Assistant District Attorney.

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For Immediate Release: Dec. 19, 2007
Contact: Darrin Schmitz (608) 661-0777

Law Enforcement Continues to Rally Around Judge Gableman

More Sheriffs, More DAs, More Judges join Gableman as the only candidate for the Court with law enforcement experience

[Burnett County, Wisc….] As 2007 winds down, Judge Gableman's campaign for Supreme Court got another boost today as it released several new law enforcement endorsements. Today's endorsements add to Gableman's already impressive list of supports – which already includes a bi-partisan majority of sheriffs.

Law enforcement leaders across the state point to Judge Gableman's experience as a front line prosecutor and adherence to the law as the reason for endorsing him in his bid for the state's highest court.

"To have the support of those who are in the trenches everyday fighting to make sure we live in safe communities is humbling to me," said Judge Gableman. "I look forward to continue working with them this coming year as we bring our message to every voter in every corner of Wisconsin."

Judge Gableman's long list of law enforcement endorsements can be found at **www.gablemanforsupremecourt.com .** The following is a list of endorsements released by Judge Gableman's campaign today:

- Waushara County District Attorney Scott Blader
- Marinette County District Attorney Brent DeBord
- St. Croix County District Attorney Eric Johnson
- Green County District Attorney Gary Luhman
- Vilas County District Attorney Al Moustakis
- Sawyer County District Attorney Thomas Van Roy
- Ashland County Assistant District Attorney Dan Goglin

- Green County Sheriff Randy Roderick
- Buffalo County Sheriff Michael Schmidtknecht
- Jackson County Sheriff Duane Waldera

- Barron County Circuit Court Judge James Babler
- Rock County Circuit Court Judge James Daley
- Brown County Circuit Court Judge Kendall Kelly
- Waukesha County Circuit Court Judge Paul Reily
- Washburn County Circuit Court Judge Eugene Harrington
- Langlade County Circuit Court Judge Fred Kawalski

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For Immediate Release: Dec. 11, 2007
Contact: Darrin Schmitz (608) 661-0777

VOTES AND RECORD CRITICAL TO COURT RACE

Gableman camps says Butler's anti-law enforcement record is fair game

[Burnett County, Wisc….] The Gableman for Supreme Court Campaign today defended the right of Wisconsin law enforcement and the campaign to discuss Justice Louis Butler's anti-law enforcement record.

A bi-partisan group of sheriffs and district attorneys recently wrote their colleagues to highlight a series of important cases in which Butler participated. The letter states, "Please take a moment to review the enclosed document detailing important Court rulings and cases regarding evidence and other issues made by Louis Butler that have been detrimental to our job of protecting the public."

Today, One Wisconsin Now (OWN), a pro-Butler third party group, wrote to the recently formed Judicial Integrity Committee criticizing the letter and seeking to squash the free speech rights of law enforcement and the Gableman campaign.

Darrin Schmitz, a Gableman for Supreme Court Campaign advisor, said OWN is attempting to hide Butler's questionable record from voters.

"Is Louis Butler and his supporters ashamed of his record? Law enforcement and the campaign have every right to share this information with their colleagues and the voters of Wisconsin," said Schmitz. "The men and women on the front lines of law enforcement have been directly impacted by Butler's decisions. They, more than anyone, understand the results of his record."

Schmitz added that Judge Gableman is committed to running a campaign based on the candidate's experiences, issues and judicial philosophies.

"Standing up for election also means standing up to defend one's record," said Schmitz.

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(Attached is the letter signed by law enforcement)

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For Immediate Release: December 6, 2007
Contact: Darrin Schmitz (608) 661-0777

Majority of Sheriffs Endorse Judge Gableman

Sheriffs across Wisconsin say Gableman is the right choice for Supreme Court

[Burnett County, Wisc….] A bi-partisan majority of Wisconsin's sheriffs have now endorsed Judge Michael Gableman's campaign for the Wisconsin Supreme Court. Noting his strong prosecutorial background and straightforward approach to the law, ten new sheriffs announced their endorsement of Judge Gableman on Thursday – bringing the total number of sheriffs supporting Gableman to 39.

"Judge Gableman is the choice for all law enforcement across Wisconsin," Sheriff Dalbec of Douglas County said. "Law enforcement expects decisions based on the law and commonsense. Judge Gableman will provide both as a Supreme Court Justice and I'm proud to endorse his candidacy."

Sheriff Dalbec had previously endorsed Justice Butler, but switched to Gableman after a closer review of each candidate's stance on recent decisions involving sheriffs' authority.

Sheriff Dalbec was joined on Thursday by:

- Robert Carlson, Racine County
- Gene Cary, Vernon County
- Dennis Kocken, Brown County
- James Kowalczyk, Chippewa County
- Mark Podoll, Green Lake County
- Jeff Rickaby, Florence County
- Dale Schmidt, Washington County
- Daniel Trawicki, Waukesha County
- Keith Van Cleve, Forest County

"Wisconsin sheriffs have such a difficult job. I greatly respect the work they do and am honored they have joined my team," said Judge Gableman. Gableman is the only candidate for the court with law enforcement experience.

Judge Michael Gableman has a distinguished and wide-ranging legal career serving as a circuit court judge, district attorney, assistant district attorney, administrative law judge, adjunct professor of law, deputy corporation counsel and private practice attorney.

Prior to his experience on the bench, Judge Gableman was appointed district attorney for Ashland County (1999) by Governor Tommy G. Thompson and subsequently won election to the position. As district attorney, he was the lead prosecutor on cases as diverse as arson, sexual assault, domestic violence, and white collar crimes. He also served as a front-line prosecutor in Marathon County (1997-1999) and Langlade County (1996-1997) as an assistant district attorney.

-MORE-

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The following is a list of sheriffs who have endorsed Judge Michael Gableman for Supreme Court:

Barron County Sheriff Thomas Richie
Brown County Sheriff Dennis Kocken
Burnett County Sheriff Dean Roland
Chippewa County Sheriff James Kowalczyk
Clark County Sheriff Louie Rosandich
Columbia County Sheriff Dennis Richards
Crawford County Sheriff Jerry Moran
Dodge County Sheriff Todd Nehls
Door County Sheriff Terry Vogel
Douglas County Sheriff Thomas Dalbec
Eau Claire County Sheriff Ron Cramer
Florence County Sheriff Jeff Rickaby
Forest County Sheriff Keith Van Cleve
Green Lake County Sheriff Mark Podoll
Iowa County Sheriff Steven Michek
Iron County Sheriff Robert Bruneau
Kenosha County Sheriff David Beth
Kewaunee County Sheriff Matt Joski
La Crosse County Sheriff Steven Helgeson
Lafayette County Sheriff Scott Pedley
Langlade County Sheriff William Greening
Lincoln County Sheriff Jeffrey Jaeger
Marinette County Sheriff Jim Kanikula
Marquette County Sheriff Kim Gaffney
Monroe County Sheriff Dennis Pedersen
Oconto County Sheriff Mike Jansen
Ozaukee County Sheriff Maury Straub
Pepin County Sheriff John Andrews
Pierce County Sheriff Nancy Hove
Racine County Sheriff Robert Carlson
Rusk County Sheriff David Kaminski
Sawyer County Sheriff James Meier
Shawano County Sheriff Randy Wright
Vernon County Sheriff Gene Cary
Vilas County Sheriff John Niebuhr
Washburn County Sheriff Terry Dryden
Washington County Sheriff Dale Schmidt
Waukesha County Sheriff Daniel Trawicki
Waupaca County Sheriff Brad Hardel

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For Immediate Release: December 5, 2007
Contact: Darrin Schmitz (608) 661-0777

Prosecutors Line Up in Support of Judge Gableman for Supreme Court

Law enforcement "has a friend in Judge Gableman."

[Burnett County, Wisc….] Adding to his growing list of law enforcement endorsements, Judge Michael Gableman announced today the support of 12 assistant district attorneys.

"Unlike Judge Gableman, Louis Butler has repeatedly sided with the violent criminals and drug dealers in his rulings," Rock County Assistant District Attorney Jerry Urbik said. "In fact, Butler cast the deciding vote to reverse two murder convictions, suppress clothing with the victim's blood on it in another murder case, reverse a sexual assault conviction and release a sexual predator back into the community. We need a judge who will consider the interest of the public and crime victims, not just the criminals. That's why I am supporting Judge Michael Gableman."

The following assistant district attorneys have endorsed Judge Gableman:

- James Babbitt, Barron County
- Mary Bricco, Rock County
- Perry Folts, Rock County Deputy DA
- Pablo Galaviz, Waukesha County
- Raymond Jablonski, Rock County
- Scott Moller, Langlade County
- Daniel Niedfeldt, Rock County
- Susan Opper, Waukesha County
- Kevin Osborne, Waukesha County
- Mark Powers, Waukesha County
- Richard Sullivan, Rock County
- Gerald Urbik, Rock County

"As the only candidate running for the state's highest court with prosecutorial experience, I understand the challenges of the job facing our assistant district attorneys," said Judge Gableman. "I am proud to have their support."

The assistant district attorneys join a growing list of sheriffs, district attorneys, and police chiefs from across the state endorsing Judge Gableman's bid for the Supreme Court.

Judge Michael Gableman has a distinguished and wide-ranging legal career serving as a circuit court judge, district attorney, assistant district attorney, administrative law judge, adjunct professor of law, deputy corporation counsel and private practice attorney.

Prior to his experience on the bench, Judge Gableman was appointed district attorney for Ashland County (1999) by Governor Tommy G. Thompson and subsequently won election to the position. As district attorney, he was the lead prosecutor on cases as diverse as arson, sexual assault, domestic violence, and white collar crimes. He also served as a front-line prosecutor in Marathon County (1997-1999) and Langlade County (1996-1997) as an assistant district attorney.

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Authorized and paid for by Gableman for Supreme Court, James Zeiler, treasurer

For Immediate Release: November 28, 2007
Contact: Darrin Schmitz (608) 661-0777

Police Chiefs From Around Wisconsin Give Green Light to Judge Gableman

List of law enforcement leaders supporting Judge Gableman for Supreme Court continues to grow.

[Burnett County, Wisc….] – On the heels of the endorsements by nearly half the sheriffs in Wisconsin, Judge Michael Gableman's campaign announced today the support of 12 chiefs of police from every corner of the state.

Law enforcement leaders continue to cite Judge Gableman's reputation of fairness and being tough on crime as the reason for backing him in his bid for a seat on Wisconsin's highest court.

"It's simple. Judge Gableman understands public safety issues and how courtroom decisions impact law enforcement's actions on the street," said Oconomowoc Police Chief Dave Beguhn. "That is the number one factor to those who are out risking their lives every day making sure we live in safe communities. There is no other choice but Judge Gableman."

Judge Gableman is the only candidate running for the Supreme Court who has criminal prosecutorial experience. Previous to his circuit court judgeship in Burnett County, he served as Ashland County's district attorney from 1999 to 2002, where he was the lead prosecutor on cases as diverse as arson, sexual assault, domestic violence, and white collar crimes. He also served as a front-line prosecutor in Marathon County and Langlade County as an assistant district attorney.

"I am incredibly humbled to have the support of our police chiefs," said Judge Gableman. "I am proud these brave police officers have expressed such confidence in me, and I look forward to treating them with the respect and fairness they deserve, as a Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice."

The following chiefs of police have endorsed Judge Michael Gableman's campaign for Wisconsin Supreme Court:

Andrew Anderson, Milltown Police Chief
Michael Anderson, La Pointe Police Chief
Robert Andrea, Spooner Police Chief
David Beguhn, Oconomowoc Police Chief
William Brandt, Antigo Police Chief
Daniel Deiss, Luck Police Chief
Peter Ellias, Mellen Police Chief
Sheryl Gehrman, Balsam Lake Police Chief
Tim Lauridsen, Osceola Police Chief
Neil Mahan, Janesville Police Chief
Tom Marson, Amery Police Chief
Mike Spafford, Webster Police Chief

Judge Gableman also boasts the support of a large bi-partisan group of district attorneys.

The Supreme Court primary election will be February 19, 2008 and the general election April 1, 2008.

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Authorized and paid for by Gableman for Supreme Court, James Zeiler, Treasurer

For Immediate Release: November 13, 2007
Contact: Darrin Schmitz (608) 661-0777

Judge Gableman: Law Enforcement's Choice for the Supreme Court

Bi-partisan list of Distinct Attorneys endorse only former prosecutor running for the Supreme Court.

[Burnett County, Wisc….] In a strong showing of bi-partisan support, a group of eleven District Attorneys from across Wisconsin endorsed Judge Michael Gableman in his campaign for the Wisconsin Supreme Court today.

Scott Southworth, Juneau County District Attorney, said this about lending his support: "I strongly support Judge Gableman. As a former prosecutor, he's dedicated much of his life to making Wisconsin a safer place." He added, "I'm proud to add my name to the growing list of law enforcement leaders throughout Wisconsin who support Judge Gableman."

Southworth was joined by:

- Angela Holmstrom, Barron County District Attorney
- Todd Martens, Washington County District Attorney
- Kathleen Pakes, Rusk County District Attorney
- John Theisen, Chippewa County District Attorney
- Mark Thibodeau, Adams County District Attorney
- Dan Cary, Monroe County District Attorney
- Richard Dufour, Marquette County District Attorney
- David Wambach, Jefferson County District Attorney
- Tim Gaskell, Vernon County District Attorney
- Leon Stenz, Forest County District Attorney

"As the only prosecutor running for the Supreme Court, I have first-hand experience knowing just what a difficult and important job these District Attorney's have," said Judge Gableman. "It is great honor to receive their endorsement."

Gableman had been previously endorsed by Waukesha County District Attorney Brad Schimel, Bayfield County District Attorney Craig Haukass, Iron County District Attorney Martin Lipski, Ashland County District Attorney Sean Duffy, Winnebago County District Attorney Christian Gossett, Washburn County District Attorney J. Michael Bitney, Langlade County District Attorney Ralph Uttke and the Taylor County District Attorney Karl Kelz.

Judge Michael Gableman has a distinguished and wide-ranging legal career serving as a Circuit Court Judge, District Attorney, Assistant District Attorney, Administrative Law Judge, Adjunct Professor of Law, Deputy Corporation Counsel and private practice attorney.

Prior to his experience on the bench, Judge Gableman was appointed District Attorney for Ashland County (1999) by Governor Tommy G. Thompson and subsequently won election to the position. As District Attorney, he was the lead prosecutor on cases as diverse as arson, sexual assault, domestic violence, and white collar crimes. He also served as a front-line prosecutor in Marathon County (1997-1999) and Langlade County (1996-1997) as an Assistant District Attorney.

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For Immediate Release: November 1, 2007
Contact: Darrin Schmitz (608) 661-0777

Sheriffs Line Up Behind Judge Gableman

Challenger Enjoys Bipartisan Law Enforcement Support

[Burnett County, Wisc….] Impressed with his record as a prosecutor and judge, a bipartisan group of Sheriffs today endorsed Michael Gableman in his campaign for the Wisconsin Supreme Court.

Among the Sheriffs announcing their support Thursday is Eau Claire County Sheriff Ron Cramer, who also serves as President of the Badger State Sheriff's Association.

"Judge Gableman exemplifies what Wisconsin law enforcement looks for in a Supreme Court Justice. He's fair, tough and understands the difficult job law enforcement faces each day in protecting Wisconsin families," said Sheriff Cramer. "I'm happy to endorse his candidacy."

Cramer was joined by:

- Scott Pedley, Lafayette County Sheriff
- Todd Nehls, Dodge County Sheriff
- Dean Roland, Burnett County Sheriff
- James Meier, Sawyer County Sheriff
- Thomas Richie, Barron County Sheriff
- Matt Joski, Kewaunee County Sheriff
- Dennis Pedersen, Monroe County Sheriff
- Kim Gaffney, Marquette County Sheriff

"Judge Gableman's campaign to bring common sense to the Supreme Court continues to gain momentum," said campaign adviser Darrin Schmitz. "The fact that so many law enforcement professionals, including Democrats, are willing to endorse a challenger for the Supreme Court indicates that the law enforcement community is troubled by Louis Butler's record on issues important to law enforcement."

Judge Michael Gableman has a distinguished and wide-ranging legal career serving as a Circuit Court Judge, District Attorney, Assistant District Attorney, Administrative Law Judge, Adjunct Professor of Law, Deputy Corporation Counsel and private practice attorney.

Prior to his experience on the bench, Judge Gableman was appointed District Attorney for Ashland County (1999) by Governor Tommy G. Thompson and subsequently won election to the position. As District Attorney, he was the lead prosecutor on cases as diverse as arson, sexual assault, domestic violence, and white collar crimes. He also served as a front-line prosecutor in Marathon County (1997-1999) and Langlade County (1996-1997) as an Assistant District Attorney.

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For Immediate Release: October 30, 2007
For further information contact: Darrin Schmitz (608) 661-0777

More District Attorneys Endorse Gableman for Supreme Court

[Burnett County, Wisc….] Just days after announcing the endorsement of four District Attorneys from across Wisconsin, the Gableman for Supreme Court campaign received five additional endorsements from Badgerland county prosecutors.

Winnebago County District Attorney Christian Gossett, Washburn County District Attorney J. Michael Bitney, Langlade County DA Ralph Uttke, St. Croix County District Attorney Eric Johnson and Taylor County District Attorney Karl Kelz are all endorsing Judge Michael Gableman

"Judge Gableman is the clear choice," said District Attorney Gossett. "Our Supreme Court should administer the law with common sense and fairness, and that will happen with Judge Gableman on the bench."

The five district attorneys join Waukesha County District Attorney Brad Schimel, Bayfield County District Attorney Craig Haukass, Iron County District Attorney Martin Lipski and the District Attorney of Ashland County, Sean Duffy. These veteran prosecutors respect Judge Gableman and his impressive track record on the bench.

"Our campaign is gaining steam," said Judge Gableman. "Every day we see more interest and more enthusiasm."

Judge Michael Gableman has a distinguished and wide-ranging legal career serving as a Circuit Court Judge, District Attorney, Assistant District Attorney, Administrative Law Judge, Adjunct Professor of Law, Deputy Corporation Counsel and private practice attorney.

Judge Gableman was appointed Burnett County Circuit Court in 2002 and was overwhelmingly elected to the bench in 2003 with 78% of the vote. The last time Louis Butler faced the voters and his philosophy and background were screened by more than just one political patron, he lost by a nearly two to one margin.

The Primary Election is February 19, 2008. The General Election will be held on April 1, 2008.

Prior to his experience on the bench, Judge Gableman was appointed District Attorney for Ashland County (1999) by Governor Tommy G. Thompson and subsequently won election to the position. As District Attorney, he was the lead prosecutor on cases as diverse as arson, sexual assault, domestic violence, and white collar crimes. He also served as a front-line prosecutor in Marathon County (1997-1999) and Langlade County (1996-1997) as an Assistant District Attorney.

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Authorized and paid for by Gableman for Supreme Court, James Zeiler, treasurer

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District Attorneys Endorse Gableman for Supreme Court
Prosecutors Impressed by Judge Gableman's Record

[Burnett County, Wisc….] Wisconsin District Attorneys who want an experienced, common sense Supreme Court are coming on board the Judge Gableman for Justice campaign. This morning, Four DAs from across the state endorsed Judge Mike Gableman.

"Wisconsin deserves a Supreme Court Justice who respects the law and has a track record of protecting our citizens," said Waukesha County District Attorney Brad Schimel. "Judge Gableman is tough, but fair, and exactly the kind of justice we need on the bench in Madison."

Schimel was joined today by Bayfield County District Attorney Craig Haukass, Iron County District Attorney Martin Lipski and the District Attorney of Ashland County, Sean Duffy. These veteran prosecutors respect Judge Gableman and his impressive track record on the bench.

In the last five-plus years on the bench, Judge Gableman presided over nearly 23,000 cases. Only 44 of those cases were appealed and only five of the nearly 23,000 decisions were reversed outright, a mere .02 percent.

"I adhere to the law, not any personal political agenda," said Judge Gableman. "I am honored that my objective administration of the law has earned me the support of these respected prosecutors."

Judge Mike Gableman has a distinguished and wide-ranging legal career serving as a Circuit Court Judge, District Attorney, Assistant District Attorney, Administrative Law Judge, Adjunct Professor of Law, Deputy Corporation Counsel and private practice attorney.

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Judge Gableman earned his Juris Doctorate from Hamline University School of Law in 1993, earning Dean's List honors. While attending law school he served as a Law Clerk for the United States Attorney's Office in Minneapolis, MN, where he helped prepare federal criminal cases for prosecution and defend the government's arguments on appeal. Upon graduation he served as a Law Clerk for judges in Douglas County, MN (1993-1995) and in Brown County, WI (1995-1996).

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