1	<b>SECTION</b> 168. 767.13 (5) (b) of the statutes is renumbered 757.69 (1) (p) 2. and
2	amended to read:
3	757.69 (1) (p) 2. On anthority delegated by a judge, which may be by a standard
4	order, a family A circuit court commissioner may conduct hearings and enter
5	judgments in actions for enforcement of, or revision of judgment for, maintenance,
6	custody, physical placement or visitation.
7	<b>SECTION 169.</b> 767.13 (5) (c) (title) of the statutes is repealed.
8	<b>SECTION</b> 170. 767.13 (5) (c) of the statutes is renumbered 757.69 (1) (p) 3. and
9	amended to read:
10	757.69 (1) (p) 3. Except when otherwise ordered by a judge, a family prohibited
11	by the chief judge of the judicial administrative district. a circuit court commissioner
12	may conduct hearings and enter orders and judgments in actions to establish
13	paternity, in actions to establish $or$ enforce a child support or a family support
14	obligation and in actions to revise orders or judgments for child support or family
15	support.
16	SECTION 171. 767.13 (6) of the statutes is repealed.
17	<b>SECTION 172.</b> 767.13 (7) (title) of the statutes is repealed.
18	<b>Section</b> 173. 767.13 (7) of the statutes is renumbered 757.69 (1) (p) 4. and
19	amended to read:
20	757.69 (1) (p) 4. Each family A circuit court commissioner shall cooperate with
21	the county and the department to ensure that all dependent children receive
22	reasonable and necessary child support.
23	SECTION 174. 767.14 of the statutes is amended to read:
24	767.14 Service on office of family court commissioner and appearance
25	by family circuit court commissioner. In any action affecting the family, each

party shall, either within 20 days after making service on the opposite party of any petition or pleading or before filing such petition or pleading in court, serve a copy of the same upon the circuit court commissioner supervising the fice of family court commissioner of the county in which the action is begun, whether such action is contested or not. No judgment in any such action shall be granted unless this section is complied with except when otherwise ordered by the court. Such A circuit court commissioner assisting in matters affecting the family may appear in an action under this chapter when appropriate; and shall appear when requested by the court.

**SECTION** 175. 767.145 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.145 **(1)** After the expiration of the period specified by the statute, the court may in its discretion, upon petition and without notice, extend the time within which service shall be made upon the <u>circuit court commissioner supervising the office of</u> family court commissioner.

**SECTION** 176. 767.15 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.15 **(1)** In any action affecting the family in which either party is a recipient of benefits under ss. 49.141 to 49.161 or aid under s. 46.261, 49.19 or 49.45, each party shall, either within 20 days after making service on the opposite party of any motion or pleading requesting the court or family circuit court commissioner to order, or to modify a previous order, relating to child support, maintenance or family support, or before filing the motion or pleading in court, serve a copy of the motion or pleading upon the county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5) of the county in which the action is begun.

**SECTION** 177. 767.16 of the statutes is amended to read:

767.16 Family Circuit court commissioner or law partner; when interested; procedure. Neither a family circuit court commissioner assisting in

matters affecting the family nor a partner may appear in any action affecting the family in any court held in the county in which the family circuit court commissioner is acting, except when authorized to appear by s. 767.14. In case the circuit court commissioner or a partner shall be in any way interested in such action, the presiding judge shall appoint some reputable attorney to perform the services enjoined upon such family the circuit court commissioner and such. The appointed attorney, so appointed, shall take and file the oath and receive the compensation provided by law.

**SECTION** 178. 767.17 of the statutes is repealed.

**SECTION** 179. 767.23 (1) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.23 (1) (intro.) Except as provided in ch. 822, in every action affecting the family, the court or family circuit court commissioner may, during the pendency thereof, make just and reasonable temporary orders concerning the following matters:

**SECTION 180. 767.23** (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.23 (1) (a) Upon request of one party, granting legal custody of the minor children to the parties jointly, to one party solely or to a relative or agency specified under s. 767.24 (3). The court or family circuit court commissioner may order joint legal custody without the agreement of the other party and without the findings required under s. 767.24 (2) (b) 2. This order may not have a binding effect on a final custody determination.

**SECTION 181. 767.23** (1) (am) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.23 **(1)** (am) Upon the request of a party, granting periods of physical placement to a party. The court or family <u>circuit</u> court commissioner shall make a

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determination under this paragraph within 30 days after the request for a temporary order regarding periods of physical placement is filed.

**SECTION 182.** 767.23 (lm) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.23 (1m) If a family <u>circuit</u> court commissioner believes that a temporary restraining order or injunction under s. 813.12 is appropriate in an action, the circuit court commissioner shall inform the parties of their right to seek the order or injunction and the procedure to follow. On a motion for such a restraining order or injunction, the family circuit court commissioner shall submit the motion to the court within 5 working days.

**SECTION** 183. 767.23 (1n) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.23 (1n) Before making any temporary order under sub. (1), the court or family circuit court commissioner shall consider those factors which the court is required by this chapter to consider before entering a final judgment on the same subject matter. If the court or family circuit court commissioner makes a temporary child support order that deviates from the amount of support that would be required by using the percentage standard established by the department under s. 49.22 (9), the court or family circuit court commissioner shall comply with the requirements of s. 767.25 (In). A temporary order under sub. (1) may be based upon the written stipulation of the parties, subject to the approval of the court or the family circuit court commissioner. Temporary orders made by the family a circuit court commissioner may be reviewed by the court as provided in c. 767.13 (6).

**SECTION 184.** 767.25 (4m) (f) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

767.25 (4m) (f) 2. The notice provided to the parent shall inform the parent that coverage for the child under the new employer's health benefit plan will be in effect upon the employer's receipt of the notice. The notice shall inform the parent that he

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or she may, within 10 business days after receiving the notice, by motion request a hearing before the court on the issue of whether the order to provide coverage of the child's health care expenses should remain in effect. A motion under this subdivision may be heard by a family circuit court commissioner. If the parent requests a hearing and the court or family circuit court commissioner determines that the order to provide coverage of the child's health care expenses should not remain in effect, the court shall provide notice to the employer that the order is no longer in effect.

**SECTION 185.** 767.265 (1) of the statutes, as affected by 1997 Wisconsin Act 191, section 411, is amended to read:

767.265 (1) Each order for child support under this chapter, for maintenance payments under s. 767.23 or 767.26, for family support under this chapter, for costs ordered under s. 767.51 (3) or 767.62 (4) (a), for support by a spouse under s. 767.02 (1) (f) or for maintenance payments under s. 767.02 (1) (g), each order for a revision in a judgment or order with respect to child support, maintenance or family support payments under s. 767.32, each stipulation approved by the court or the family a <u>circuit</u> court commissioner for child support under this chapter and each order for child or spousal support entered under s. 948.22 (7) constitutes an assignment of all commissions, earnings, salaries, wages, pension benefits, benefits under ch. 102 or 108, lottery prizes that are payable in instalments and other money due or to be due in the future to the department or its designee. The assignment shall be for an amount sufficient to ensure payment under the order or stipulation and to pay any arrearages due at a periodic rate not to exceed 50% of the amount of support due under the order or stipulation so long as the addition of the amount toward arrearages does not leave the party at an income below the poverty line established under 42 USC 9902 (2).

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**SECTION** 186. 767.265 (2h) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.265 (2h) If a court-ordered assignment does not require immediately effective withholding and a payer fails to make a required maintenance, child support, spousal support or family support payment within 10 days after its due date, within 20 days after the payment's due date the court or family circuit court commissioner shall cause the assignment to go into effect by providing notice of the assignment in the manner provided under sub. (2r) and shall send a notice by regular mail to the last-known address of the payer. The notice sent to the payer shall inform the payer that an assignment is in effect and that the payer may, within a lo-day period, by motion request a hearing on the issue of whether the assignment should remain in effect. The court or family circuit court commissioner shall hold a hearing requested under this subsection within 10 working days after the date of the request. If at the hearing the payer establishes that the assignment is not proper because of a mistake of fact, the court or family circuit court commissioner may direct that the assignment be withdrawn. Either party may, within 15 working days after the date of a decision by a family circuit court commissioner under this subsection, seek review of the decision by the court with jurisdiction over the action.

**SECTION** 187. 767.265 (2r) of the statutes, as affected by 1997 Wisconsin Act 191, section 414, is amended to read:

767.265 (**2r**) Upon entry of each order for child support, maintenance, family support or support by a spouse and upon approval of each stipulation for child support, unless the court finds that income withholding is likely to cause the payer irreparable harm or unless s. 767.267 applies, the court, family circuit court commissioner or county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5) shall provide notice of the assignment by regular mail or by facsimile machine, as defined in s. 134.72 (1)

(a), or other electronic means to the last-known address of the person from whom the payer receives or will receive money. The notice shall provide that the amount withheld may not exceed the maximum amount that is subject to garnishment under 15 USC 1673 (b) (2). If the department or its designee, whichever is appropriate, does not receive the money from the person notified, the court, family circuit court commissioner or county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5) shall provide notice of the assignment to any other person from whom the payer receives or will receive money. Notice under this subsection may be a notice of the court, a copy of the executed assignment or a copy of that part of the court order directing payment.

**SECTION 188.** 767.267 (1) of the statutes, as affected by 1997 Wisconsin Act 27, is amended to read:

767.267 (1) If the court or the family circuit court commissioner determines that income withholding under s. 767.265 is inapplicable, ineffective or insufficient to ensure payment under an order or stipulation specified in s. 767.265 (1), or that income withholding under s. 767.25 (4m) (c) or 767.51 (3m) (c) is inapplicable, ineffective or insufficient to ensure payment of a child's health care expenses, including payment of health insurance premiums, ordered under s. 767.25 (4m) or 767.51 (3m), the court or family circuit court commissioner may require the payer to identify or establish a deposit account, owned in whole or in part by the payer, that allows for periodic transfers of funds and to file with the financial institution at which the account is located an authorization for transfer from the account to the department or its designee, whichever is appropriate. The authorization shall be provided on a standard form approved by the court and shall specify the frequency and the amount of transfer, sufficient to meet the payer's obligation under the order or stipulation, as required by the court or family circuit court commissioner. The

27, is amended to read:

authorization shall include the payer's consent for the financial institution or an
officer, employe or agent of the financial institution to disclose information to the
$court,  \textcolor{red}{\textbf{family}}  \textcolor{red}{\textbf{circuit}}   court   commissioner,  county  child   support   agency   under   s.   59.53$
(5), department or department's designee regarding the account for which the payer
has executed the authorization for transfer.
SECTION 189. 767.267 (5) of the statutes, as affected by 1997 Wisconsin Act 27,
is amended to read:
767.267 (5) A financial institution or an officer, employe or agent of a financial
institution may disclose info-rmation to the court, <code>family_circuit</code> court commissioner,
county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5), department or department's designee
concerning an account for which a payer has executed an authorization for transfer
under sub. (1).
SECTION 190. 767.27 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:
767.27 (2) Except as provided in sub. (2m), disclosure forms required under this
section shall be filed within $90\ days$ after the service of summons or the filing of a
joint petition or at such other time as ordered by the court or <b>family</b> circuit court
commissioner. Information contained on such forms shall be updated on the record
to the date of hearing.
SECTION 191. 767.29 (title) of the statutes is amended to read:
767.29 (title) Maintenance, child support and family support
payments, receipt and disbursement; family circuit court commissioner,
fees and compensation.
<b>SECTION 192. 767.29</b> (1) (c) of the statutes, as affected by 1997 Wisconsin Act

767.29 (1) (c) Except as provided in sub. (1m), the department or its designee shall disburse the money received under the judgment or order in the manner required by federal regulations and take receipts therefor, unless the department or its designee is unable to disburse the moneys because they were paid by check or other draft drawn upon an account containing insufficient funds. All moneys received or disbursed under this section shall be entered in a record kept by the department or its designee, whichever is appropriate, which shall be open to inspection by the parties to the action, their attorneys and the family circuit court commissioner.

**SECTION 193.** 767.29 (1) (d) (intro.) of the statutes, as created by 1997 Wisconsin Act 27, is amended to read:

767.29 (1) (d) (intro.) For receiving and disbursing maintenance, child support or family support payments, and for maintaining the records required under par. (c), the department or its designee shall collect an annual fee of \$25 to be paid by each party ordered to make payments. The court or family circuit court commissioner shall order each party ordered to make payments to pay the annual fee under this paragraph at the time of, and in addition to, the first payment to the department or its designee in each year for which payments are ordered. All fees collected under this paragraph shall be deposited in the appropriation account under s. 20.445 (3) (ja). At the time of ordering the payment of an annual fee under this paragraph, the court or family circuit court commissioner shall notify each party ordered to make payments of the requirement to pay the annual fee and of the amount of the annual fee. If the annual fee under this section is not paid when due, the department or its designee may not deduct the annual fee from the maintenance or child or family support payment, but may do any of the following:

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SECTION 194	. 767.29	(1) (d) 2. of tl	ne statutes,	as created by	1997	Wisconsin Act
27, is amended to	read:					

767.29 **(1) (d)** 2. Apply to the court or <u>family</u> <u>a circuit</u> court commissioner for an assignment relating to the annual fee in accordance with s. 767.265.

**SECTION 195.** 767.29 (1) (e) of the statutes, as affected by 1997 Wisconsin Act 27, is amended to read:

767.29 (1) (e) If the maintenance, child support or family support payments adjudged or ordered to be paid are not paid to the department or its designee at the time provided in the judgment or order, the county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5) or the family a circuit court commissioner of the county shall take such proceedings as he or she considers advisable to secure the payment of the sum including enforcement by contempt proceedings under ch. 785 or by other means. Copies of any order issued to compel the payment shall be mailed to counsel who represented each party when the maintenance, child support or family support payments were awarded. In case any fees of officers in any of the proceedings, including the compensation of the family circuit court commissioner at the rate of \$50 per day unless the commissioner is on a salaried basis, is not collected from the person proceeded against, the fees shall be paid out of the county treasury upon the order of the presiding judge and the certificate of the department.

**SECTION 196. 767.29** (lm) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.29 (Im) (b) The court or the family circuit court commissioner has ordered that overpayments of child support, family support or maintenance that do not exceed the amount of support or maintenance due in the next month may be held for disbursement in the next month.

**SECTION 197.** 767.29 (3) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.29 (3) (a) If maintenance payments or support money, or both, is ordered to be paid for the benefit of any person, who is committed by court order to an institution or is in confinement, or whose legal custody is vested by court order under ch. 48 or 938 in an agency, department or relative, the court or family a circuit court commissioner may order such maintenance payments or support money to be paid to the relative or agency, institution, welfare department or other entity having the legal or actual custody of said person, and to be used for the latter's care and maintenance, without the appointment of a guardian under ch. 880.

**SECTION** 198. 767.29 (3) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.29 (3) (b) If a child who is the beneficiary of support under a judgment or order is placed by court order in a child caring institution, juvenile correctional institution or state mental institution, the right of the child to support during the period of the child's confinement, including any right to unpaid support accruing during that period, is assigned to the state. If the judgment or order providing for the support of a child who is placed in a child caring institution, juvenile correctional institution or state mental institution includes support for one or more other children, the support that is assigned to the state shall be the proportionate share of the child placed in the institution, except as otherwise ordered by the court or family circuit court commissioner on the motion of a party.

**SECTION 199.** 767.293 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.293 **(1)** If an order for child support under this chapter or s. 948.22 (7), an order for family support under this chapter or a stipulation approved by the court or the family circuit court commissioner for child support under this chapter requires a payer to pay child or family support in an amount that is expressed as a percentage of parental income, the payee, including the state or a county child support agency

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under s. 59.53 (5) if the state is a real party in interest under s. 767.075 (1), may establish an arrearage by filing an affidavit in the action in which the order for the payment of support was entered or the stipulation for support was approved. The affidavit shall state the amount of the arrearage and the facts supporting a reasonable basis on which the arrearage was determined and may state the payer's current income and the facts supporting a reasonable basis on which the payer's current income was determined. Not later than 60 days after filing the affidavit, the payee shall serve the affidavit on the payer in the manner provided in s. 801.11 (1) (a) or (b) or by sending the affidavit by registered or certified mail to the last-known address of the payer. After the payee files a proof of service on the payer, the court shall send a notice to the payer by regular, registered or certified mail to the payer's last-known address. The notice shall provide that, unless the payer requests a hearing to dispute the arrearage or the amount of the arrearage not later than 20 days after the date of the notice, the court or family circuit court commissioner may enter an order against the payer in the amount stated in the affidavit and may provide notice of assignment under s. 767.265. The notice shall include the mailing address to which the request for hearing must be mailed or delivered in order to schedule a hearing under sub. (2).

**SECTION** 200. 767.293 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.293 **(2)** If the payer makes a timely request for a hearing, the court or family circuit court commissioner shall hold a hearing on the issue of the amount of the arrearage, if any. If the court or family circuit court commissioner determines after hearing that an arrearage exists, the court or family circuit court commissioner shall enter an order establishing an arrearage in the amount determined by the court

or <u>family circuit</u> court commissioner and may send notice of assignment under s. 767.265.

**SECTION** 201. 767.293 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.293 (3) If the court or family circuit court commissioner sends the notice under sub. (1) and the payer fails to make a timely request for a hearing, the court or family circuit court commissioner, if the affidavit demonstrates to the satisfaction of the court or family circuit court commissioner that an arrearage exists, shall enter an order establishing an arrearage in the amount determined by the court or family circuit court commissioner and may send notice of assignment under s. 767.265. The court or family circuit court commissioner shall send the order to the payer's last-known address and shall inform the payer whether an assignment is in effect and that the payer may, within a lo-day period, by motion request a hearing on the issue of whether the order should be vacated or the assignment should be withdrawn.

**SECTION** 202. 767.32 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.32 (1) (a) After a judgment or order providing for child support under this chapter or s. 48.355 (2) (b) 4., 48.357 (5m), 48.363 (2), 938.183 (4), 938.355 (2) (b) 4., 938.357 (5m), 938.363 (2) or 948.22 (7), maintenance payments under s. 767.26 or family support payments under this chapter, or for the appointment of trustees under s. 767.31, the court may, from time to time, on the petition, motion or order to show cause of either of the parties, or upon the petition, motion or order to show cause of the department, a county department under s. 46.215, 46.22 or 46.23 or a county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5) if an assignment has been made under s. 46.261, 48.57 (3m) (b) 2. or (3n) (b) 2., 49.19 (4) (h) or 49.45 (19) or if either party or their minor children receive aid under s. 48.57 (3m) or (3n) or ch. 49, and upon notice to the office of family court commissioner, revise and alter such judgment or order

respecting the amount of such maintenance or child support and the payment thereof, and also respecting the appropriation and payment of the principal and income of the property so held in trust, and may make any judgment or order respecting any of the matters that such court might have made in the original action, except that a judgment or order that waives maintenance payments for either party shall not thereafter be revised or altered in that respect nor shall the provisions of a judgment or order with respect to final division of property be subject to revision or modification. A revision, under this section, of a judgment or order with respect to an amount of child or family support may be made only upon a finding of a substantial change in circumstances. In any action under this section to revise a judgment or order with respect to maintenance payments, a substantial change in the cost of living by either party or as measured by the federal bureau of labor statistics may be sufficient to justify a revision of judgment or order with respect to the amount of maintenance, except that a change in an obligor's cost of living is not in itself sufficient if payments are expressed as a percentage of income.

**SECTION** 203. 767.327 (2) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.327 (2) (c) Upon receipt of a copy of a notice of objection under par. (a), the court or family circuit court commissioner shall promptly refer the parents for mediation or other family court counseling services under s. 767.11 and may appoint a guardian ad litem. Unless the parents agree to extend the time period, if mediation or counseling services do not resolve the dispute within 30 days after referral, the matter shall proceed under subs. (3) to (5).

**SECTION** 204. 767.33 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.33 **(2)** An adjustment under sub. (1) may be made only if the party receiving payments applies to the family a circuit court commissioner for the adjustment. If

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the order specifies the date on which the annual adjustment becomes effective, the application to the family circuit court commissioner must be made at least 20 days before the effective date of the adjustment. The family circuit court commissioner, upon application by the party receiving payments, shall send a notice by certified mail to the last-known address of the obligor. The notice shall be postmarked no later than 10 days after the date on which the application was filed and shall inform the obligor that an adjustment in payments will become effective on the date specified in the order or, if no date is specified in the order, 10 days after the date on which the notice is sent. The obligor may, after receipt of notice and before the effective date of the adjustment, request a hearing on the issue of whether the adjustment should take effect, in which case the adjustment shall be held in abeyance pending the outcome of the hearing. The family circuit court commissioner shall hold a hearing requested under this subsection within 10 working days after the request. If at the hearing the obligor establishes that extraordinary circumstances beyond his or her control prevent fulfillment of the adjusted child support obligation, the family circuit court commissioner may direct that all or part of the adjustment not take effect until the obligor is able to fulfill the adjusted obligation. If at the hearing the obligor does not establish that extraordinary circumstances beyond his or her control prevent fulfillment of the adjusted obligation, the adjustment shall take effect, as of the date it would have become effective had no hearing been requested. Either party may, within 15 working days of the date of the decision by the family circuit court commissioner under this subsection, seek review of the decision by the court with jurisdiction over the action.

**SECTION** 205. 767.37 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

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767.37 (1) (a) In any action affecting the family, if the court orders maintenance payments or other allowances for a party or children or retains jurisdiction in such matters, the written judgment shall include a provision that disobedience of the court order with respect to the same is punishable under ch. 785 by commitment to the county jail or house of correction until such judgment is complied with and the costs and expenses of the proceedings are paid or until the party committed is otherwise discharged, according to law. The written judgment in any action affecting the family shall include the social security numbers of the parties and of any child of the parties. The findings of fact and conclusions of law and the written judgment shall be drafted by the attorney for the moving party, and shall be submitted to the court and filed with the clerk of the court within 30 days after judgment is granted; but if the respondent has been represented by counsel, the findings, conclusions and judgment shall first be submitted to respondent's counsel for approval and if the family circuit court commissioner has appeared at the trial of the action, such papers shall also be sent to the family circuit court commissioner for approval. After any necessary approvals are obtained, the findings of fact, conclusions of law and judgment shall be submitted to the court. Final stipulations of the parties may be appended to the judgment and incorporated by reference therein.

**SECTION** 206. 767.37 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.37 (2) So far as a judgment of divorce affects the marital status of the parties the court has the power to vacate or modify the judgment for sufficient cause shown, upon its own motion, or upon the application of both parties to the action, at any time within 6 months from the granting of such judgment. No such judgment shall be vacated or modified without service of notice of motion on the <u>office of</u> family court commissioner. The court may direct the family a circuit court commissioner or

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appoint some other attorney, to bring appropriate proceedings for the vacation of the judgment. The compensation of the family circuit court commissioner when not on a salaried basis or other attorney for performing such services shall be at the rate of \$50 per day, which shall be paid out of the county treasury upon order of the presiding judge and the certificate of the clerk of the court. If the judgment is vacated it shall restore the parties to the marital relation that existed before the granting of such judgment. If after vacation of the judgment either of the parties brings an action in this state for divorce against the other the court may order the petitioner in such action to reimburse the county the amount paid by it to the family circuit court commissioner or other attorney in connection with such vacation proceedings. Whenever a judgment of divorce is set aside under this subsection, the court shall order the record in the action impounded without regard to s. 767.19; and thereafter neither the record nor any part of the record shall be offered or admitted into evidence in any action or proceeding except by special order of the court of jurisdiction upon good cause shown in any paternity proceedings under this chapter or by special order of any court of record upon a showing of necessity to clear title to real estate.

**SECTION** 207. 767.45 (5) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.45 (5) (b) An action under this section may be joined with any other action for child support and shall be governed by the procedures specified in s. 767.05 relating to child support, except that the title of the action shall be "In re the paternity of A.B." The petition shall state the name and date of birth of the child if born or that the mother is pregnant if the child is unborn, the name of any alleged father, whether or not an action by any of the parties to determine the paternity of the child or rebut the presumption of paternity to the child has at any time been commenced, or is pending before any judge or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner, in this state

or elsewhere. If a paternity	judgment has been rendered, or if a pa	aternity action has
been dismissed, the petition shall state the court which rendered the judgment or		
dismissed the action, and the date and the place the judgment was granted if known.		
The petition shall also give	notice of a party's right to request a g	genetic test under
s. 49.225 or 767.48.		
<b>SECTION</b> 208. 767.455	(5) of the statutes is amended to reac	<b>l</b> :
<b>767.455</b> (5) FORM. The	summons shall be in substantially th	ne following form:
STATE OF WISCONSIN,	CIRCUIT COU	JRT:COUNTY
In re the Paternity of A. B.		
STATE OF WISCONSIN		
and		
C. D.		
Address		
City, State Zip Code		File No
, Petitioners		
VS.		SUMMONS
E. F.		
Address	(Case Classification Type):	(Code No.)
City, State Zip Code		
, Respondent		

1	You have been sued claims that you are the father of the child, born on
2	(date), in (city) (county) (state). You must appear to answer this claim of
3	paternity. Your court appearance is:
4	Date:
5	Time:
6	Room:
7	Judge or Family Circuit Court Commissioner:
8	Address:**
9	If you do not appear, the court will enter a default judgment finding you to be
10	the father. A default judgment will take effect 30 days after it is served on or mailed
11	to you, unless within those 30 days you present to the court evidence of good cause
12	for failure to appear. If you plan to be represented by an attorney, you should contact
13	the attorney prior to the court appearance listed above. If you are unable to afford
14	an attorney, the court will appoint one for you only upon the blood tests showing that
15	you are not excluded as the father and the probability of your being the father is less
16	than 99.0%. Appearance is not required if you complete the attached waiver of first
17	appearance statement and send it to the court at least 10 days prior to the date of
18	your scheduled appearance in this summons.
19	Dated: (year)
20	Signed:
21	G. H., Clerk of Circuit Court
22	or
23	Petitioner's Attorney
24	State Bar No.:
25	Address:

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SECTION 208

City, State Zip Code: . . . .

Phone No.: . . . .

**SECTION** 209. 767.458 (lm) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.458 **(lm)** In an action to establish the paternity of a child who was born to a woman while she was married, where a man other than the woman's husband alleges that he, not the husband, is the child's father, a party may allege that a judicial determination that a man other than the husband is the father is not in the best interest of the child. If the court or a circuit or supnlemental court commissioner under s. 757.69 (3) 757.675 (2) (g) determines that a judicial determination of whether a man other than the husband is the father is not in the best interest of the child, no genetic tests may be ordered and the action shall be dismissed.

**SECTION** 210. 767.46 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.46 **(1)** A pretrial hearing shall be held before the court or a <u>circuit or supplemental</u> court commissioner under s. 757.69 (3) 757.675 (2) (g). A record or minutes of the proceeding shall be kept. At the pretrial hearing the parties may present and cross-examine witnesses, request genetic tests and present other evidence relevant to the determination of paternity.

**Section 211.** 767.463 of the statutes is amended to read:

**767.463 Dismissal if adjudication not in child's best interest.** Except as provided in s. 767.458 (1m), at any time in an action to establish the paternity of a child, upon the motion of a party or guardian ad litem, the court or circuit or supplemental court commissioner under s. 757.69 (3) 757.675 (2) (g) may, with respect to a man, refuse to order genetic tests, if genetic tests have not yet been taken, and dismiss the action if the court or circuit or sunnlemental court commissioner

determines that a judicial determination of whether the man is the father of the child is not in the best interest of the child.

**SECTION** 212. 767.465 (2) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.465 (2) (a) Except as provided in sub. (2m), if a respondent is the alleged father and fails to appear at the first appearance, unless the first appearance is not required under s. 767.457 (2), scheduled court-ordered genetic test, pretrial hearing or trial, the court shall enter an order adjudicating the respondent to be the father and appropriate orders for support, legal custody and physical placement. The orders shall be either served on the respondent or mailed by regular, registered or certified mail, to the last-known address of the respondent. The orders shall take effect 30 days after service or 30 days after the date on which the orders were mailed unless, within that time, the respondent presents to the court or a circuit or supplemental court commissioner under s. 757.69(3)(g) 757.675 (2) (g) evidence of good cause for failure to appear or failure to have undergone a court-ordered genetic test.

**SECTION** 213. 767.51 (3m) (f) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

767.51 (3m) (f) 2. The notice provided to the parent shall inform the parent that coverage for the child under the new employer's health benefit plan will be in effect upon the employer's receipt of the notice. The notice shall inform the parent that he or she may, within 10 business days after receiving the notice, by motion request a hearing before the court on the issue of whether the order to provide coverage of the child's health care expenses should remain in effect. A motion under this subdivision may be heard by a family circuit court commissioner. If the parent requests a hearing and the court or family circuit court commissioner determines that the order to

provide coverage of the child's health care expenses should not remain in effect, the court shall provide notice to the employer that the order is no longer in effect.

**SECTION 214.** 767.62 (2) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.62 (2) (b) If a statement acknowledging paternity is timely rescinded as provided in s. 69.15 (3m), a court or family circuit court commissioner may not enter an order specified in sub. (4) with respect to the man who signed the statement as the father of the child unless the man is adjudicated the child's father using the procedures set forth in ss. 767.45 to 767.60.

**SECTION** 215. 767.62 (3) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.62 (3) (b) Except as provided in s. 767.045, in an action specified in par. (a) the court or <u>family a circuit</u> court commissioner may appoint a guardian ad litem for the child and shall appoint a guardian ad litem for a party who is a minor, unless the minor party is represented by an attorney.

**SECTION** 216. 767.62 (4) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.62 (4) (a) In an action under sub. (3) (a), if the persons who signed and filed the statement acknowledging paternity as parents of the child had notice of the hearing, the court or family a circuit court commissioner may make an order that contains any provision directed against the appropriate party to the proceeding concerning the duty of support, the legal custody or guardianship of the child, periods of physical placement, the furnishing of bond or other security for the payment of amounts under the order or any other matter in the best interest of the child. Unless the court orders otherwise, if there is no presumption of paternity under s. 891.41 (1) the mother shall have sole legal custody of the child. The court or family circuit court commissioner shall order either party or both to pay for the support of any child of the parties who is less than 18 years old, or any child of the parties who is less than

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19 years old if the child is pursuing an accredited course of instruction leading to the acquisition of a high school diploma or its equivalent. The order may direct the father to pay or contribute to the reasonable expenses of the mother's pregnancy and confinement during pregnancy and may direct either party to pay or contribute to the costs of attorney fees or other costs.

**SECTION 217.** 767.62 (4) (b) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

767.62 (4) (b) 2. In addition to ordering child support for a child under par. (a>, the court or family circuit court commissioner shall specifically assign responsibility for and direct the manner of payment of the child's health care expenses. In assigning responsibility for a child's health care expenses, the court or family circuit court commissioner shall consider whether a child is covered under a parent's health insurance policy or plan at the time the court enters an order under this paragraph, the availability of health insurance to each parent through an employer or other organization, the extent of coverage available to a child and the costs to the parent for the coverage of the child. A parent may be required to initiate or continue health care insurance coverage for a child under this subdivision. If a parent is required to do so, he or she shall provide copies of necessary program or policy identification to the other parent and is liable for any health care costs for which he or she receives direct payment from an insurer. This paragraph may not be construed to limit the authority of the court or <u>family circuit</u> court commissioner to enter or modify support orders containing provisions for payment of medical expenses, medical costs, or insurance premiums that are in addition to and not inconsistent with this paragraph.

**SECTION** 218. 767.62 (4) (b) 3. a. of the statutes, as affected by 1997 Wisconsin Act 191, section 489, is amended to read:

767.62 (4) (b) 3. a. In directing the manner of payment of a child's health care expenses, the court or family circuit court commissioner may order that payment, including payment for health insurance premiums, be withheld from income and sent to the appropriate health care insurer, provider or plan, as provided in s. 767.265 (3h), or sent to the department or its designee, whichever is appropriate, for disbursement to the person for whom the payment has been awarded if that person is not a health care insurer, provider or plan. If the court or family circuit court commissioner orders income withholding and assignment for the payment of health care expenses, the court or family circuit court commissioner shall send notice of assignment in the manner provided under s. 767.265 (2r) and may include that notice of assignment with a notice of assignment under s. 767.265. The department or its designee, whichever is appropriate, shall keep a record of all moneys received and disbursed by the department or its designee for health care expenses that are directed to be paid to the department or its designee.

**SECTION** 219. 767.62 (4) (b) 3. b. of the statutes is amended to read:

767.62 (4) (b) 3. b. If the court or <u>family circuit</u> court commissioner orders a parent to initiate or continue health insurance coverage for a child under a health insurance policy that is available to the parent through an employer or other organization but the court or <u>family circuit</u> court commissioner does not specify the manner in which payment of the health insurance premiums shall be made, the clerk of court may provide notice of assignment in the manner provided under s. 767.265 (2r) for the withholding from income of the amount necessary to pay the health insurance premiums. That notice of assignment may be sent with or included as part of any other notice of assignment under s. 767.265, if appropriate. A person who receives the notice of assignment shall send the withheld health insurance

premiums to the appropriate health care insurer, provider or plan, as provided in s	S
767.265 (3h).	

**SECTION** 220. 767.62 (4) (b) 4. (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.62 (4) (b) 4. (intro.) If the court or <u>family circuit</u> court commissioner orders a parent to provide coverage of the health care expenses of the parent's child and the parent is eligible for family coverage of health care expenses under a health benefit plan that is provided by an employer on an insured or on a self-insured basis, the employer shall do all of the following:

**SECTION** 221. 767.62 (4) (b) 4. c. of the statutes is amended to read:

767.62 (4) (b) 4. c. After the child has coverage under the employer's health benefit plan, and as long as the parent is eligible for family coverage under the employer's health benefit plan, continue to provide coverage for the child unless the employer receives satisfactory written evidence that the order of the court or family circuit court commissioner is no longer in effect or that the child has coverage of health care expenses under another health insurance policy or health benefit plan that provides comparable coverage of health care expenses.

**SECTION** 222. 767.62 (4) (b) 5. a. of the statutes is amended to read:

767.62 (4) (b) 5. a. If a parent who has been ordered by a court or <u>family circuit</u> court commissioner to provide coverage of the health care expenses of a child who is eligible for medical assistance under subch. IV of ch. 49 receives payment from a 3rd party for the cost of services provided to the child but does not pay the health care provider for the services or reimburse the department or any other person who paid for the services on behalf of the child, the department may obtain a judgment against the parent for the amount of the 3rd party payment.

**SECTION** 223. 767.62 (4) (b) 6. b. of the statutes is amended to read:

767.62 (4) (b) 6. b. The notice provided to the parent shall inform the parent that coverage for the child under the new employer's health benefit plan will be in effect upon the employer's receipt of the notice. The notice shall inform the parent that he or she may, within 10 business days after receiving the notice, by motion request a hearing before the court on the issue of whether the order to provide coverage of the child's health care expenses should remain in effect. A motion under this subd. 6. b. may be heard by a family directit court commissioner. r e n t requests a hearing and the court or family circuit court commissioner determines that the order to provide coverage of the child's health care expenses should not remain in effect, the court shall provide notice to the employer that the order is no longer in effect.

**Section** 224. 767.62 (4) (d) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

767.62 (4) (d) 1. Except as provided in par. (e), the court or family circuit court commissioner shall determine child support payments under par. (a) by using the percentage standard established by the department under s. 49.22 (9).

**SECTION** 225. 767.62 (4) (d) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

767.62 (4) (d) 2. In determining child support payments under par. (a), the court or family circuit court commissioner may consider all relevant financial information or other information relevant to the parent's earning capacity, including information reported under s. 49.22 (2m) to the department or the county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5).

**SECTION** 226. 767.62 (4) (e) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.62 (4) (e) (intro.) Upon request by a party, the court or <u>family circuit</u> court commissioner may modify the amount of child support payments determined under par. (d) if, after considering the following factors, the court or <u>family circuit</u> court

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commissioner finds by the greater weight of the credible evidence that use of the percentage standard is unfair to the child or to the requesting party:

**SECTION** 227. 767.62 (4) (e) 14. of the statutes is amended to read:

767.62 (4) (e) 14. Any other factors that the court or <u>family circuit</u> court commissioner in each case determines are relevant to the best interests of the child.

**SECTION** 228. 767.62 (4) (f) of the statutes is amended to read:

767.62 (4) (f) If the court or family circuit court commissioner finds under par. (e) that use of the percentage standard is unfair to the child or the requesting party, the court or family circuit court commissioner shall state in writing or on the record the amount of support that would be required by using the percentage standard, the amount by which the court's or family circuit court commissioner's order deviates from that amount, the reasons for finding that use of the percentage standard is unfair to the child or the party, the reasons for the amount of the modification and the basis for the modification.

**SECTION** 229. 769.102 of the statutes is amended to read:

**769.102 Tribunal of this state.** The courts and <u>circuit and supplemental</u> court commissioners are the tribunal of this state.

**SECTION** 230. 769.302 of the statutes is amended to read:

**769.302 Action by minor parent.** A minor parent, or a guardian or other legal representative of a minor parent, may maintain a proceeding on behalf of or for the benefit of the minor's child. Notwithstanding s. 767.045 (1) or 803.01 (3), the court may appoint a guardian ad litem for the minor's child, but the court need not appoint a guardian ad litem for a minor parent who maintains such a proceeding unless the proceeding is one for the determination of parentage, in which case the court or a family circuit court commissioner shall appoint a guardian ad litem for a

minor parent within this state who maintains such a proceeding or for a minor within this state who is alleged to be a parent, as provided in s. 767.475 (1).

**SECTION** 231. 782.01 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

782.01 (3) In this chapter, unless the context requires otherwise, judge includes the supreme court, the court of appeals and circuit courts and each justice and judge thereof and <u>circuit and supnlemental</u> court commissioners; and prisoner includes every person restrained of personal liberty; and imprisoned includes every such restraint, and respondent means the person on whom the writ is to be served.

**Section** 232. 782.03 of the statutes is amended to read:

**782.03 Petition for writ.** Application for the writ shall be by petition, signed either by the prisoner or by some person in his or her behalf, and may be made to the supreme court, the court of appeals or the circuit court of the county, or to any justice or judge of the supreme court, court of appeals or circuit court or to any circuit or supplemental court commissioner, within the county where the prisoner is detained; or if there is no judge within the county, or for any cause he or she is incapable of acting, or has refused to grant the writ, then to some judge residing in an adjoining county; but every application, made by or on behalf of a person sentenced to the state prisons, must contain a copy of any motion made under s. 974.06 and shall indicate the disposition of the motion and the court in which the disposition was made. If no motion was made, the petition shall so state.

**SECTION** 233. 782.28 of the statutes is amended to read:

782.28 (title) **Transfer from <u>circuit</u> court commissioner.** If the writ is returnable before a <u>circuit</u> court commissioner, either party may make a request for transfer to the court in which the matter is filed. Upon receipt of such request the

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1	circuit court commissioner shall forthwith transmit all papers and records in the
2	proceedings to the court.
3	SECTION 234. 799.03 of the statutes is amended to read:
4	799.03 Definition. In this chapter unless otherwise designated, "court"
5	means circuit court and "court" does not mean circuit court commissioner.
6	SECTION 235. 799.05 (7) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:
7	799.05 (7) (title) FORM; CIRCUIT COURT COMMISSIONER. (intro.) Except as
8	provided in s. 799.22 (4) (b) 3., in counties establishing at least one part-time or
9	full-time court commissioner position under s. 757.68(1)(b) in which a circuit court
10	commissioner is assigned to assist in small claims matters, the summons shall be
11	substantially in the following form:
12	SECTION 236. 799.06 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:
13	<b>799.06 (1)</b> PLEADINGS. All pleadings except the initial complaint may be oral.
14	Any circuit court may by rule require written pleadings and any judge or circuit court
15	commissioner may require written pleadings in a particular case.
16	SECTION 237. 799.11 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:
17	799.11 (3) When, in any action under this chapter, it appears from the return
18	of service of the summons or otherwise that the county in which the action is pending
19	is not a proper place of trial and that another county would be a proper place of trial,

**SECTION** 238. 799.20 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

the court or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner shall, on motion of a party or its own motion,

transfer the action to that county unless the defendant appears and waives the

improper venue. The clerk of the court to which the action is transferred shall issue

a new notice of return date upon payment of the fee required by s. 814.61 (2) (a).

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799.20 (4) Inquiry of defendant who appears on return date. If the defendant appears on the return date of the summons or any adjourned date thereof, the court or circuit court commissioner shall make sufficient inquiry of the defendant to determine whether the defendant claims a defense to the action. If it appears to the court or circuit court commissioner that the defendant claims a defense to the action, the court or circuit court commissioner shall schedule a trial of all the issues involved in the action, unless the parties stipulate otherwise or the action is subject to immediate dismissal.

**SECTION 239.** 799.206 (1), (2) and (4) of the statutes are amended to read:

799.206 (1) In counties establishing/at least one part-time or full-time/cou

commissioner position under s. 757.68 (1) (b) all actions and proceedings

commenced under this chapter shall be returnable before a circuit court

commissioner appointed under s. 757.68. In any other county, a court commissioner

may conduct return date proceedings if delegated such authority under s. 757.69(1)

15)<sup>le r</sup> (d) (2).

(2) Judgment on failure to appear may be entered by the circuit court commissioner or the clerk upon the return date as provided in s. 799.22.

(4) Except as provided in sub. (3), the <u>circuit</u> court commissioner shall hear all matters using the procedures set forth in s. 799.207.

**SECTION** 240. 799.207 (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

799.207 (title) Proceedings before circuit court commissioner.

**SECTION** 241. 799.207 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

799.207 (1) (a) Any circuit court commissioner assigned to assist in the administration of small claims matters may hold a conference with the parties or their attorneys or both on the return date, examine pleadings and identify issues.

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1	SECTION 242. 799.207 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:
2	799.207 (1) (b) Except as provided in par. (e), a decision shall be rendered by
3	the <u>circuit</u> court commissioner on the return date if there is time available for a
4	hearing, the parties do not intend to call witnesses, and the parties agree to such a
5	hearing. If for any of the reasons stated in this paragraph, the matter cannot be
6	heard on the return date, an adjourned date shall be set.
7	SECTION 243. 799.207 (1) (e) of the statutes is amended to read:
8	799.207 (1) (e) If the <u>circuit</u> court commissioner cannot reach a decision on the
9	return or adjourned date, the commissioner shall mail the decision to each party
10	within 30 days of the date of the hearing.
11	SECTION 244. 799.207 (2) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:
12	799.207 (2) (intro.) The circuit court commissioner's decision shall become a
13	judgment 11 days after rendering, if oral, and 16 days after mailing, ifwritten, except
14	that:
15	SECTION 245. 799.207 (3) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:
16	799.207 (3) (b) The circuit court commissioner shall give each of the parties a
17	form and instructions which shall be used for giving notice of an election to have the
18	matter heard by the court.
19	SECTION 246. 799.209 (1) to (4) of the statutes are amended to read:
20	799.209 (1) The court or circuit court commissioner shall conduct the
21	proceeding informally, allowing each party to present arguments and proofs and to
22	examine witnesses to the extent reasonably required for full and true disclosure of
23	the facts.
24	(2) The proceedings shall not be governed by the common law or statutory rules
25	of evidence except those relating to privileges under ch. 905 or to admissibility under

- s. 901.05. The court or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner shall admit all other evidence having reasonable probative value, but may exclude irrelevant or repetitious evidence or arguments. An essential finding of fact may not be based solely on a declarant's oral hearsay statement unless it would be admissible under the rules of evidence.
- (3) The court or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner may conduct questioning of the witnesses and shall endeavor to ensure that the claims or defenses of all parties are fairly presented to the court or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner.
- (4) The court or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner shall establish the order of trial and the procedure to be followed in the presentation of evidence and arguments in an appropriate manner consistent with the ends of justice and the prompt resolution of the dispute on its merits according to the substantive law.

**SECTION** 247. 799.21 (3) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

799.21 (3) (b) In counties establishing at land partitime or full-time court commissioner position under s. 7.68 (1) (b) in which a circuit court commissioner is assigned to assist in small claims matters, except in eviction actions which shall be governed by par. (a), demand for trial by jury shall be made at the time a demand for trial is filed. If the party requesting a trial does not request a jury trial, any other party may request a jury trial by filing the request with the court and mailing copies to all other parties within 15 days from the date of mailing of the demand for trial or the date on which personal notice of demand is given, whichever is applicable. If no party demands a trial by jury, the right to trial by jury is waived forever. The fees prescribed in ss. 814.61 (4) and 814.62 (3) (e) shall be paid when the demand for a trial by jury is filed.

**SECTION** 248. 799.21 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

799.21 (4) **Jury procedure.** If there is a demand for a trial by jury, the judge or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner shall place the case on the trial calendar and a jury of 6 persons shall be chosen as provided in s. 345.43 (3) (b). The parties shall proceed as if the action had originally been begun as a proceeding under chs. 801 to 807, except that the court is not required to provide the jury with one complete set of written instructions under s. 805.13 (4) and the requirements for appearance by the parties shall be governed by s. 799.06 (2).

**SECTION** 249. 799.24 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

799.24 (1) Entry of Judgment or order; notice of entry thereof. When a judgment or an order is rendered, the judge, circuit court commissioner or clerk of circuit court shall immediately enter it in the court record and note the date thereof which shall be the date of entry ofjudgment or order. The clerk of circuit court, except in municipal and county forfeiture actions, shall mail a notice of entry of judgment to the parties or their attorneys at their last-known address within 5 days of its entry. Upon payment of the exact amount of the fee prescribed in s. 814.62 (3) (c), the clerk of circuit court shall enter the judgment in the judgment and lien docket.

**SECTION** 250. 799.24 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

799.24 (3) **STIPULATED DISMISSAL.** Prior to the entry of judgment, upon stipulation of the parties to a schedule for compliance with the stipulation, the court or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner may enter a stipulated judgment of dismissal in lieu thereof. Any such judgment may be vacated without notice to the obligated party, and the unsatisfied portion thereof entered, upon application by the prevailing party and proof by affidavit of noncompliance with the terms of the stipulation.

**Section 251.** 799.26 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

799.26 **(1)** When a judgment for money damages is entered under this chapter, the court or circuit court commissioner shall order the judgment debtor to execute under penalty of contempt a disclosure statement and to mail or deliver that statement to the judgment creditor or to the clerk of circuit court in the county where the judgment is entered within 15 days of entry of judgment unless the judgment is sooner satisfied. The statement shall disclose, as of the date of judgment, the debtor's name, residence address, employers and their addresses, any real property interests owned by the debtor, cash on hand, financial institutions in which the judgment debtor has funds on deposit, whether the debtor's earnings are totally exempt from garnishment under s. 812.34 (2) (b), and such other information as required by the schedules adopted under sub. (3).

**SECTION** 252. 803.01 (3) (b) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

803.01 (3) (b) 1. The guardian ad litem shall be appointed by a circuit court of the county where the action is to be commenced or is pending, except that the guardian ad litem shall be appointed by a family circuit court commissioner of the county in actions to establish paternity that are before the family circuit court commissioner.

**Section** 253. 807.02 of the statutes is amended to read:

**807.02 Motions, where heard; stay of proceedings.** Except as provided in s. 807.13 or when the parties stipulate otherwise and the court approves, motions in actions or proceedings in the circuit court must be heard within the circuit where the action is triable. Orders out of court, not requiring notice, may be made by the presiding judge of the court in any part of the state. No order to stay proceedings after a verdict, report or finding in any circuit court may be made by a circuit or

1	supplemental court commissioner. No stay of proceedings for more than 20 days may
2	be granted except upon previous notice to the adverse party.
3	SECTION 254. 807.04 (1) of the statutes, as affected by 1997 Wisconsin Act 133,
4	is amended to read:
5	807.04 (1) Except as provided under sub. (2), all trials, and all hearings at
6	which oral testimony is to be presented, shall be held in open court. The court may
7	make any order which a judge or a circuit or sunnlemental court commissioner has
8	power to make. Court commissioners shall have the provided in ch 753 or
9	by other statute.
10	<b>Section</b> 255. 807.09 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:
11	807.09 (1) A circuit judge of the circuit court of any county may appoint and
12	remove at any time, any retired or former circuit or county court judge to act, in
13	matters referred by the judge and in conciliation matters. When a matter for
14	conciliation is referred for such purpose, the conciliator shall have full authority to
15	hear, determine and report findings to the court. Such conciliators may be appointed
16	<u>circuit</u> court commissioners as provided in s. 757.63 under SCR 75.02 (1).
17	SECTION 256. 812.30 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:
18	812.30 (2) "Court" includes a circuit court commissioner assigned to preside at
19	a proceeding under this subchapter.
20	SECTION 257. 813,025 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:
21	813.025 (1) No <u>circuit or supplemental</u> court commissioner <u>shall may</u> issue any
22	injunction or order suspending or restraining the enforcement or execution of any
23	statute of the state or of any order of an administrative officer, board, department,
24	commission or other state agency purporting to be made pursuant to the statutes of
25	the state. If so issued such, the injunction or order shall be void.

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**Section** 258. 813.12 (2) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

813.12 (2) (a) No action under this section may be commenced by complaint and summons. An action under this section may be commenced only by a petition described under sub. (5) (a). The action commences with service of the petition upon the respondent if a copy of the petition is filed before service or promptly after service. If the judge or family a circuit court commissioner extends the time for a hearing under sub. (3) (c) and the petitioner files an affidavit with the court stating that personal service by the sheriff or a private server under s. 801.11 (1) (a) or (b) was unsuccessful because the respondent is avoiding service by concealment or otherwise, the petitioner may serve the respondent by publication of the petition as a class 1 notice, under ch. 985, and by mailing if the respondent's post-office address is known or can with due diligence be ascertained. The mailing may be omitted if the post-office address cannot be ascertained with due diligence.

**Section** 259. 813.12 (2) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

813.12 (2) (b) A petition may be filed in conjunction with an action affecting the family commenced under ch. 767, but commencement of an action affecting the family or any other action is not necessary for the filing of a petition or the issuance of a temporary restraining order or an injunction. A judge or family circuit court commissioner may not make findings or issue orders under s. 767.23 or 767.24 while granting relief requested only under this section. Section 813.06 does not apply to an action under this section. The respondent may respond to the petition either in writing before or at the hearing on the issuance of the injunction or orally at that hearing.

**SECTION** 260. 813.12 (3) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

813.12 (3) (a) A judge or family circuit court commissioner shall issue a temporary restraining order ordering the respondent to refrain from committing acts of domestic abuse against the petitioner, to avoid the petitioner's residence, except as provided in par. (am), or any premises temporarily occupied by the petitioner or both, or to avoid contacting or causing any person other than a party's attorney to contact the petitioner unless the petitioner consents in writing, or any combination of these remedies requested in the petition, if all of the following occur:

- 1. The petitioner submits to the judge or family circuit court commissioner a petition alleging the elements set forth under sub. (5) (a).
- 2. The judge or family circuit court commissioner finds reasonable grounds to believe that the respondent has engaged in, or based on prior conduct of the petitioner and the respondent may engage in, domestic abuse of the petitioner. In determining whether to issue a temporary restraining order, the judge or family circuit court commissioner shall consider the potential danger posed to the petitioner and the pattern of abusive conduct of the respondent but may not base his or her decision solely on the length of time since the last domestic abuse or the length of time since the relationship ended. The judge or family circuit court commissioner may grant only the remedies requested or approved by the petitioner.

**Section 261.** 813.12 (3) (am) of the statutes is amended to read:

813.12 (3) (am) If the petitioner and the respondent are not married, the respondent owns the premises where the petitioner resides and the petitioner has no legal interest in the premises, in lieu of ordering the respondent to avoid the petitioner's residence under par. (a) the judge or family circuit court commissioner may order the respondent to avoid the premises for a reasonable time until the

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petitioner relocates and shall order the respondent to avoid the new residence for the duration of the order.

**SECTION** 262. 813.12 (3) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

813.12 (3) (c) The temporary restraining order is in effect until a hearing is held on issuance of an injunction under sub. (4). The temporary restraining order is not voided if the respondent is admitted into a dwelling that the order directs him or her to avoid. A judge or family circuit court commissioner shall hold a hearing on issuance of an injunction within 7 days after the temporary restraining order is issued, unless the time is extended upon the written consent of the parties or extended once for 14 days upon a finding that the respondent has not been served with a copy of the temporary restraining order although the petitioner has exercised due diligence.

**SECTION 263. 813.12 (3)** (d) of the statutes is amended to read:

**813.12 (3)** (d) The judge or circuit court commissioner shall advise the petitioner of the right to serve the respondent the petition by published notice if with due diligence the respondent cannot be served as provided under s. 801.11 (1) (a) or **(b).** The clerk of circuit court shall assist the petitioner with the preparation of the notice and filing of the affidavit of printing.

**SECTION** 264. 813.12 (4) (a) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

813.12 (4) (a) (intro.) A judge or family circuit court commissioner may grant an injunction ordering the respondent to refrain from committing acts of domestic abuse against the petitioner, to avoid the petitioner's residence, except as provided in par. (am), or any premises temporarily occupied by the petitioner or both, or to avoid contacting or causing any person other than a party's attorney to contact the

petitioner unless the petitioner consents to that contact in writing, or any combination of these remedies requested in the petition, if all of the following occur:

**SECTION** 265. 813.12 (4) (a) 3. of the statutes is amended to read:

813.12 (4) (a) 3. After hearing, the judge or family circuit court commissioner finds reasonable grounds to believe that the respondent has engaged in, or based upon prior conduct of the petitioner and the respondent may engage in, domestic abuse of the petitioner. In determining whether to issue an injunction, the judge or family circuit court commissioner shall consider the potential danger posed to the petitioner and the pattern of abusive conduct of the respondent but may not base his or her decision solely on the length of time since the last domestic abuse or the length of time since the relationship ended. The judge or family circuit court commissioner may grant only the remedies requested by the petitioner.

**SECTION** 266. 813.12 (4) (am) of the statutes is amended to read:

813.12 (4) (am) If the petitioner and the respondent are not married, the respondent owns the premises where the petitioner resides and the petitioner has no legal interest in the premises, in lieu of ordering the respondent to avoid the petitioner's residence under par. (a) the judge or family circuit court commissioner may order the respondent to avoid the premises for a reasonable time until the petitioner relocates and shall order the respondent to avoid the new residence for the duration of the order.

**SECTION** 267. 813.12 (4) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

813.12 (4) (b) The judge or family circuit court commissioner may enter an injunction only against the respondent named in the petition. No injunction may be issued under this subsection under the same case number against the person petitioning for the injunction. The judge or family circuit, court commissioner may

not modify an order restraining the respondent based solely on the request of the respondent.

**SECTION** 268. 813.12 (4m) (a) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

813.12 (4m) (a) 2. Except as provided in par. (ag), require the respondent to surrender any firearms that he or she owns or has in his or her possession to the sheriff of the county in which the action under this section was commenced, to the sheriff of the county in which the respondent resides or to another person designated by the respondent and approved by the judge or family circuit court commissioner. The judge or circuit court commissioner shall approve the person designated by the respondent unless the judge or circuit court commissioner finds that the person is inappropriate and places the reasons for the finding on the record. If a firearm is surrendered to a person designated by the respondent and approved by the judge or family circuit court commissioner shall inform the person to whom the firearm is surrendered of the requirements and penalties under s. 941.29 (4).

**SECTION** 269. 813.12 (4m) (b) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

813.12 (4m) (b) (intro.) A firearm surrendered under par. (a) 2. may not be returned to the respondent until a judge or family circuit court commissioner determines all of the following:

**Section** 270. 813.12 (4m) (b) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

813.12 **(4m)** (b) 2. That the person is not prohibited from possessing a firearm under any state or federal law or by the order of any federal court or state court, other than an order from which the judge or **family circuit court commissioner** is competent to grant relief.

**SECTION** 271. 813.12 (5) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

1	813.12 (5) (c) A judge or family circuit court commissioner shall accept any	
2	legible petition for a temporary restraining order or injunction.	
3	SECTION 272. 813.12 (6) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:	
4	813.12 (6) (a) If an order is issued under this section, upon request by the	
5	petitioner the court or $\frac{family}{circuit}$ court commissioner shall order the sheriff to	
6	accompany the petitioner and assist in placing him or her in physical possession of	
7	his or her residence or to otherwise assist in executing or serving the temporary	
8	restraining order or injunction. The petitioner may, at the petitioner's expense, use	
9	a private process server to serve papers on the respondent.	
10	SECTION 273. 813.12 (7m) of the statutes is amended to read:	
11	813.12 (7m) Transcripts. The judge or family circuit court commissioner shall	
12	record the temporary restraining order or injunction hearing upon the request of the	
13	petitioner.	
14	SECTION 274. 813,122 (3) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:	
15	813.122 (3) (a) Procedure for an action under this section is in 2 parts. First,	
16	if the petitioner requests a temporary restraining order, the court or circuit court	
17	commissioner shall issue or refuse to issue that order. Second, the court shall hold	
18	a hearing under sub. (5) on whether to issue an injunction, which is the final relief.	
19	If the court or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner issues a temporary restraining order, the	
20	order shall set forth the date for the hearing on an injunction. If the court or circuit	
21	court commissioner does not issue a temporary restraining order, the date for th	
22	hearing shall be set upon motion by either party.	
23	SECTION 275. 813.122 (3) (b) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:	
24	813.122 (3) (b) (intro.) The court or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner, on its <u>or his or</u>	
25	her own motion or the motion of any party, may order one or more of the following:	

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1	SECTION 276. 813.122 (3) (bm) of the statutes is amended to read:			
2	813.122 (3) (bm) The court or circuit_court commissioner shall appoint a			
3	guardian ad litem if the respondent is a parent of the child.			
4	SECTION 277. 813.122 (4) (a) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:			
5	813.122 (4) (a) (intro.) A judge or circuit court commissioner shall issue a			
6	temporary restraining order ordering the respondent to avoid the child victim's			
7	residence or any premises temporarily occupied by the child victim or both, and to			
8	avoid contacting or causing any person other than a party's attorney to contact the			
9	child victim unless the petitioner consents in writing and the judge or circuit court			
10	commissioner agrees that the contact is in the best interests of the child victim, if all			
11	of the following occur:			
12	<b>SECTION 278. 813.122 (4)</b> (a) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:			
13	813.122 (4) (a) 1. The petitioner submits to the judge or circuit court			
14	commissioner a petition alleging the elements set forth under sub. (6) (a).			
15	SECTION 279. 813.122 (4) (a) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:			
16	813.122 (4) (a) 2. The judge or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner finds reasonable			
17	grounds to believe that the respondent has engaged in, or based on prior conduct of			
18	the child victim and the respondent may engage in, abuse of the child victim.			
19	SECTION 280. 813.122 (5m) (a) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:			
20	813.122 (5m) (a) 2. Except as provided in par. (ag), require the respondent to			
21	surrender any firearms that he or she owns or has in his or her possession to the			
22	sheriff of the county in which the action under this section was commenced, to the			
23	sheriff of the county in which the respondent resides or to another person designated			
24	by the respondent and approved by the judge or dircuit court commissioner.			

judge or circuit court commissioner shall approve the person designated by the

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1	respondent unless the judge or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner finds that the person is
2	inappropriate and places the reasons for the finding on the record. If a firearm is
3	surrendered to a person designated by the respondent and approved by the judge or
4	circuit court commissioner, the judge or circuit court commissioner shall inform the
5	person to whom the firearm is surrendered of the requirements and penalties under
6	s. 941.29 (4).
7	SECTION 281. 813.122 (5m) (b) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:
8	813.122 (5m) (b) (intro.) A firearm surrendered under par. (a) 2. may not be
9	returned to the respondent until a judge or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner determines
10	all of the following:
11	SECTION 282. 813.122 (5m) (b) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:
12	813.122 (5m) (b) 2. That the person is not prohibited from possessing a firearm
13	under any state or federal law or by the order of any federal court or state court, other
14	than an order from which the judge or circuit court commissioner is competent to
15	grant relief.
16	SECTION 283. 813.122 (9) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:
17	813.122 (9) (a) If an order is issued under this section, upon request by the
18	petitioner, the court or $\underline{circuit}$ court commissioner, as applicable, shall order the
19	sheriff to assist in executing or serving the temporary restraining order or
20	injunction.
21	SECTION 284. 813.123 (3) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:
22	813.123 (3) (a) Procedure for an action under this section is in 2 parts. First,
23	if the petitioner requests a temporary restraining order, the court or circuit court
24	commissioner shall issue or refuse to issue that order. Second, the court shall hold

a hearing under sub. (5) on whether to issue an injunction, which is the final relief.

If the court or circuit court commissioner issues a temporary restraining order, the
order shall set forth the date for the hearing on an injunction. If the court or circuit
court commissioner does not issue a temporary restraining order, the date for the
hearing shall be set upon motion by either party.
SECTION 285. 813.123 (3) (b) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:
813.123 (3) (b) (intro.) The court or circuit court commissioner, on its or his or

her own motion or the motion of any party, may order one or more of the following:

**SECTION** 286. 813.123 (4) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

813.123 (4) (a) Unless the vulnerable adult, guardian or guardian ad litem consents in writing and the judge or circuit court commissioner agrees that the contact is in the best interests of the vulnerable adult, a judge or circuit court commissioner shall issue a temporary restraining order ordering the respondent to avoid interference with an investigation of the vulnerable adult under s. 55.043, the delivery of protective services to the vulnerable adult under s. 55.05 or a protective placement of the vulnerable adult under s. 55.06 if all of the following occur:

- 1. The petitioner submits to the judge or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner a petition alleging the elements set forth under sub. (6).
- 2. The judge or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner finds reasonable grounds to believe that the respondent has interfered with, or based on prior conduct of the respondent may interfere with, an investigation of the vulnerable adult under s. 55.043, the delivery of protective services to the vulnerable adult under s. 55.05 or a protective placement of the vulnerable adult under s. 55.06.

**SECTION** 287. 813.123 (8) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

813.123 (8) (a) If an order is issued under this section, upon request by the
petitioner, the court or $\underline{\text{circuit}}$ court commissioner shall order the sheriff to assist in
executing or serving the temporary restraining order or injunction.
SECTION 288. 813,125 (3) (a) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:
813.125 (3) (a) (intro.) A judge or circuit_court commissioner may issue a
temporary restraining order ordering the respondent to cease or avoid the
harassment of another person, if all of the following occur:
SECTION 289. 813.125 (3) (a) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:
813.125 (3) (a) 2. The judge or circuit court commissioner finds reasonable
grounds to believe that the respondent has violated s. 947.013.
SECTION 290. 813.125 (3) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:
813.125 (3) (c) The temporary restraining order is in effect until a hearing is
held on issuance of an injunction under sub. (4). A judge or circuit court
commissioner shall hold a hearing on issuance of an injunction within 7 days after
the temporary restraining order is issued, unless the time is extended upon the
written consent of the parties or extended once for 7 days upon a finding that the
respondent has not been served with a copy of the temporary restraining order
although the petitioner has exercised due diligence.
SECTION 291. 813.125 (4) (a) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:
813.125 (4) (a) (intro.) A judge or c <u>ircuit</u> court commissioner may grant an
injunction ordering the respondent to cease or avoid the harassment of another
person, if all of the following occur:
SECTION 292. 813.125 (4) (a) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:
813.125 (4) (a) 2. The petitioner serves upon the respondent a copy of a
restraining order obtained under sub. (3) and notice of the time for the hearing on

the issuance of the injunction under sub. (3) (c). The restraining order or notice of
hearing served under this subdivision shall inform the respondent that, if the judge
or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner issues an injunction, the judge or <u>circuit</u> court
commissioner may also order the respondent not to possess a firearm while the
injunction is in effect.

**Section** 293. 813.125 (4) (a) 3. of the statutes is amended to read:

813.125 (4) (a) 3. After hearing, the judge or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner finds reasonable grounds to believe that the respondent has violated s. 947.013.

**SECTION** 294. 813.125 (4m) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

813.125 (4m) (a) If a judge or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner issues an injunction under sub. (4) and the judge or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner determines, based on clear and convincing evidence presented at the hearing on the issuance of the injunction, that the respondent may use a firearm to cause physical harm to another or to endanger public safety, the judge or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner may prohibit the respondent from possessing a firearm.

**SECTION** 295. 813.125 (4m) (c) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

813.125 (4m) (c) 2. Except as provided in par. (cg), require the respondent to surrender any firearms that he or she owns or has in his or her possession to the sheriff of the county in which the action under this section was commenced, to the sheriff of the county in which the respondent resides or to another person designated by the respondent and approved by the judge or circuit court commissioner. The judge or circuit court commissioner shall approve the person designated by the respondent unless the judge or circuit court commissioner finds that the person is inappropriate and places the reasons for the finding on the-record. If a firearm is surrendered to a person designated by the respondent and approved by the judge or

1 <u>circuit</u> court commissioner, the judge or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner shall inform the 2 person to whom the firearm is surrendered of the requirements and penalties under 3 s. 941.29 (4). 4 **SECTION** 296. 813,125 (4m) (d) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read: 5 813.125 (4m) (d) (intro.) A firearm surrendered under par. (c) 2. may not be 6 returned to the respondent until a judge or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner determines 7 all of the following: 8 **SECTION** 297. 813.125 (4m) (d) 2. of the statutes is amended to read: 9 813.125 (4m) (d) 2. That the person is not prohibited from possessing a firearm 10 under any state or federal law or by the order of any federal court or state court, other 11 than an order from which the judge or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner is competent to 12 grant relief. 13 **SECTION** 298. 813.125 (5) (am) of the statutes is amended to read: 14 813.125 (5) (am) The petition shall inform the respondent that, if the judge or 15 <u>circuit</u> court commissioner issues an injunction, the judge or <u>circuit</u> court 16 commissioner may also order the respondent not to possess a firearm while the 17 injunction is in effect. **SECTION** 299. 814.615 (3) of the statutes is amended to read: 18 19 814.615 (3) The court or family a circuit court commissioner shall direct either or both parties to pay any applicable fee under this section. If either or both parties 20 21 are unable to pay, the court shall grant a separate judgment for the amount of the 22 fees in favor of the county and against the party or parties responsible for the fees. 23 **SECTION** 300. 814.68 (title) of the statutes is amended to read: 24 814.68 (title) Fees of supplemental court commissioners. 25 **SECTION** 301. 814.68 (1) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

1	814.68 (1) PART-TIME SUPPLEMENTALCOURTCOMMISSIONERS. (intro.) A part-time			
2	supplemental court commissioner appointed under s. 757.68 (2) 757.675 (1) shall			
3	collect the following fees:			
4	SECTION 302. 814.68 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:			
5	814.68 (1) (a) A fee of \$1 for each decision, signing or filing of a document or			
6	other ministerial act required by law performed by a <del>part-time</del> <u>sunplemental</u> court			
7	commissioner. This paragraph does not apply to testimonial proceedings or			
8	depositions taken before a <u>sunnlemental</u> court commissioner.			
9	SECTION 303. 814.68 (1) (b) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:			
10	814.68 (1) (b) (intro.) For the following duties performed by a part-time			
11	sunnlemental court commissioner held in the county courthouse or other court			
12	facilities provided by law, reasonable compensation as fixed by the court but not more			
13	than the hourly equivalent of the salary of a judge of the court:			
14	SECTION 304. 814.68 (1) (b) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:			
15	814.68 (1) (b) 1. Every attendance upon the hearing of any motion for an order			
16	which a <u>sunplemental</u> court commissioner is authorized to grant and for attendance			
17	upon any motion or an official act to be done by the sunnlemental court commissioner.			
18	<b>SECTION</b> 305. 814.68 (2). of the statutes is amended to read:			
19	814.68 (2) Supplementary examinations. For attendance upon an examination			
20	under ch. 816, a <u>supplemental</u> court commissioner shall collect a fee of \$15 to be paid			
21	upon the issuance of the order under s. 816.03 (1). The fee shall be returned in any			
22	case where it appears by affidavit filed that the order was not served upon the			
23	judgment debtor. This fee is the only fee a sunplemental court commissioner is			
24	entitled to for proceedings under ch. 816.			
25	SECTION 306. 816.03 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:			

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1	816.03 (1) (b) A supplemental court commissioner upon application of a
2	judgment creditor shall order any judgment debtor to appear before the court
3	commissioner and answer concerning the judgment debtor's property at a time and
4	place specified in the order, within said county, in lieu of the procedure set forth in
5	par. (a).
6	SECTION 307. 816.035 (1) and (2) of the statutes are amended to read:
7	816.035 (1) An order under s. 816.03 (1) issued by a supplemental court
8	commissioner shall be served in the same manner as the service of a summons under
9	s. 801.11. The return on the order shall be made to the commissioner who issued the
10	order. The commissioner shall file the order and the return with the clerk of the court
11	in which the judgment involved is entered.
12	(2) Upon issuance of the order, the sunplemental court commissioner shall
13	collect the fee prescribed in s. 814.68 (2) for attendance upon the examination.
14	SECTION 308. 818.02 (6) of the statutes is amended to read:
15	818.02 (6) In a proceeding to determine paternity or to establish or revise a
16	child support or maintenance obligation, if the court or family a circuit court
17	commissioner finds that the petitioner cannot effect service of process upon the
18	respondent despite due diligence on the part of the petitioner or after the respondent
19	is personally served but fails to appear on the return date, on the date set for the
20	pretrial hearing or on the date set for the trial.
21	SECTION 309. 879.61 of the statutes is amended to read:
22	879.61 <b>Discovery proceedings.</b> Any personal representative or any person
23	interested who suspects that any other person has concealed, stolen, conveyed or
24	disposed of property of the estate; or is indebted to the decedent; possesses, controls

or has knowledge of concealed property of the decedent; possesses, controls or has

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knowledge of writings which contain evidence of or tend to disclose the right, title, interest or claim of the decedent to any property; or possesses, controls or has knowledge of any will of the decedent, may file a petition in the court so stating. The court upon such notice as it directs, may order the other person to appear before the court or a supplemental court commissioner for disclosure, may subpoen a witnesses and compel the production of evidence and may make any order in relation to the matter as is just and proper.

**Section** 310. 885.10 of the statutes is amended to read:

**885.10** Witness for indigent respondent or defendant. Upon satisfactory proof of the financial inability of the respondent or defendant to procure the attendance of witnesses for his or her defense, the judge or <u>sunnlemental</u> court commissioner, in any paternity proceeding or criminal action or proceeding, or in any other case in which the respondent or defendant is represented by the state public defender or by assigned counsel under s. 977.08, to be tried or heard before him or her, may direct the witnesses to be subpoenaed as he or she determines is proper and necessary, upon the respondent's or defendant's oath or affidavit or that of the respondent's or defendant's attorney. Witnesses so subpoenaed shall be paid their fees in the manner that witnesses for the state therein are paid. Determination of indigency, in full or in part, under s. 977.07 is proof of the respondent's or defendant's financial inability to procure the attendance of witnesses for his or her defense.

**SECTION 311.** 885.12 of the statutes is amended to read:

**885.12 Coercing witnesses before officers and boards.** If any person, without reasonable excuse, fails to attend as a witness, or to testify as lawfully required before any arbitrator, coroner, medical examiner, board, commission, commissioner, examiner, committee, or other officer or person authorized to take

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testimony, or to produce a book or paper which the person was lawfully directed to bring, or to subscribe the person's deposition when correctly reduced to writing, any judge of a court of record or a circuit court commissioner in the county where the person was obliged to attend may, upon sworn proof of the facts, issue an attachment for the person, and unless the person shall purge the contempt and go and testify or do such other act as required by law, may commit the person to close confinement in the county jail until the person shall so testify or do such act, or be discharged according to law. The sheriff of the county shall execute the commitment.

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**SECTION 312.** 887.26 (7) of the statutes is amended to read:

887.26 (7) Fees. The persons who take depositions and the witness shall be entitled to the fees allowed <u>supplemental</u> court commissioners under s. 814.68 (1) and witnesses for similar service by the law of this state, or such as may be prescribed by the law of the state or country where taken.

**SECTION** 313. 898.02 of the statutes is amended to read:

**898.02 Notice to plaintiff.** The person shall cause notice to be given to the plaintiff in the action, the plaintiff's agent or attorney, in writing, that at a time and place specified in the notice the person will apply to the circuit judge or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner of the county in which the person is so confined for the purpose of obtaining a discharge from imprisonment.

**SECTION** 314. 898.04 of the statutes is amended to read:

**898.04 Prisoner to be examined.** At the time and place specified in the notice the person shall be taken, under the custody of the jailer, the sheriff or the sheriff's deputy, before the circuit judge or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner, who shall examine the prisoner on oath concerning his or her estate and effects and the disposal thereof and the prisoner's ability to pay the judgment for which he or she

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is ended.

1	is committed; and who shall also hear any other legal and pertinent evidence that
2	may be produced by the debtor or the creditor.
3	SECTION 315. 898.11 of the statutes is amended to read:
4	898.11 Inability to pay fees. If the prisoner is unable to pay in whole or in
5	part the fees of the circuit judge or court commissioner in the proceedings, the
6	proceedings shall continue without charge to the prisoner.
7	SECTION 316. 906.15 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:
8	906.15 (1) At the request of a party, the judge or a circuit court commissioner
9	shall order witnesses excluded so that they cannot hear the testimony of other
10	witnesses. The judge or circuit court commissioner may also make the order of his
11	or her own motion.
12	SECTION 317. 906.15 (2) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:
13	906.15 (2) (d) A victim, as defined in s. 950.02 (4), in a criminal case or a victim,
14	as defined in s. 938.02 (20m), in a delinquency proceeding under ch. 938, unless the
15	judge or circuit court commissioner finds that exclusion of the victim is necessary to
16	provide a fair trial for the defendant or a fair fact-finding hearing for the juvenile.
17	The presence of a victim during the testimony of other witnesses may not by itself
18	be a basis for a finding that exclusion of the victim is necessary to provide a fair trial
19	for the defendant or a fair fact-finding hearing for the juvenile.
20	SECTION 318. 906.15 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:
21	906.15 (3) The judge or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner may direct that all excluded
22	and non-excluded witnesses be kept separate until called and may prevent them

**SECTION 319.** 911.01 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

from communicating with one another until they have been examined or the hearing

911.01 (1) Courts and court commissioners. Chapters 901 to 911 apply to the		
courts of the state of Wisconsin, including municipal courts, family court		
commissioners, and circuit. sunplemental and municipal court commissioners, in the		
proceedings and to the extent hereinafter set forth except as provided in s. 972.11.		
The word "judge" in chs. 901 to 911 means judge of a court of record, municipal judge,		
family or circuit. sunnlemental or municipal court commissioner+		
commissioner.		
SECTION 320. 938.06 (1) (a) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:		
938.06 (1) (a) 2. The chief judge of the judicial administrative district shall		
formulate written judicial policy governing intake and court services for juvenile		
matters under this chapter and the director shall be charged with executing the		
judicial policy, The chief judge shall direct and supervise the work of all personnel		
of the court, except the work of the district attorney or corporation counsel assigned		
to the court. The chief judge may delegate his or her supervisory functions under s.		
<del>938.065 (1)</del> .		
SECTION 321. 938.065 of the statutes is repealed.		
SECTION 322. 938.208 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:		
938.208 (4) Probable cause exists to believe that the juvenile, having been		
placed in nonsecure custody by an intake worker under s. 938.207 or by the judge or		
juvenile circuit court commissioner under s. 938.21 (4), has run away or committed		
a delinquent act and no other suitable alternative exists.		
SECTION 323. 938.2 1 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:		
938.21 (1) (a) If a juvenile who has been taken into custody is not released		
under s. 938.20, a hearing to determine whether the juvenile shall continue to be held		
in custody under the criteria of ss. 938,205 to 938.209 (1) shall be conducted by the		

judge or juvenile a circuit court commissioner within 24 hours after the end of the day that the decision to hold the juvenile was made, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays. By the time of the hearing a petition under s. 938.25 shall be filed, except that no petition need be filed where a juvenile is taken into custody under s. 938.19 (1) (b) or(d) 2., 6. or 7. or where the juvenile is a runaway from another state, in which case a written statement of the reasons for holding a juvenile in custody shall be substituted if the petition is not filed. If no hearing has been held within 24 hours or if no petition or statement has been filed at the time of the hearing, the juvenile shall be released except as provided in par. (b). A parent not present at the hearing shall be granted a rehearing upon request.

**SECTION** 324. **938.21** (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

938.21 (1) (b) If no petition has been filed by the time of the hearing, a juvenile may be held in custody with the approval of the judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner for an additional 48 hours from the time of the hearing only if, as a result of the facts brought forth at the hearing, the judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner determines that probable cause exists to believe that the juvenile is an imminent danger to himself or herself or to others, or that probable cause exists to believe that the parent, guardian or legal custodian of the juvenile or other responsible adult is neglecting, refusing, unable or unavailable to provide adequate supervision and care. The extension may be granted only once for any petition. In the event of failure to file a petition within the 48–hour extension period provided for in this paragraph, the judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner shall order the juvenile's immediate release from custody.

**SECTION** 325. 938.21 (2) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

938.21 (2) (c) Prior to the commencement of the hearing, the juvenile shall be informed by the judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner of the allegations that have been or may be made, the nature and possible consequences of this hearing as compared to possible future hearings, the provisions of s. 938.18 if applicable, the right to counsel under s. 938.23 regardless of ability to pay if the juvenile is not yet represented by counsel, the right to remain silent, the fact that the silence may not be adversely considered by the judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner, the right to confront and cross-examine witnesses and the right to present witnesses.

**SECTION** 326. 938.21 (4) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

938.21 (4) (intro.) If the judge or <u>juvenile circuit</u> court commissioner finds that the juvenile should be continued in custody under the criteria of s. 938.205, he or she shall enter one of the following orders:

**SECTION** 327. 938.21 (4m) of the statutes is amended to read:

938.21 **(4m) ELECTRONIC MONITORING.** The judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner may include in an order under sub. (4) (a) or (b) a condition that the juvenile be monitored by an electronic monitoring system.

**SECTION** 328. 938.21 (7) of the statutes is amended to read:

938.21 (7) Deferred Prosecution. If the judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner determines that the best interests of the juvenile and the public are served, he or she may enter a consent decree under s. 938.32 or order the petition dismissed and refer the matter to the intake worker for deferred prosecution in accordance with s. 938.245.

**SECTION** 329. 938.24 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

938.24 (5) The intake worker shall request that a petition be filed, enter into a deferred prosecution agreement or close the case within 40 days or sooner of receipt

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of referral information. Before entering into a deferred prosecution agreement, the intake worker shall comply with s. 938.245 (1m), if applicable. If the case is closed or a deferred prosecution agreement is entered into, the district attorney, corporation counsel or other official under s. 938.09 shall receive written notice of such action. If the case is closed, the known victims of the juvenile's alleged act shall receive notice as provided under sub. (5m), if applicable. In addition, if a deferred prosecution agreement is entered into placing a juvenile in a youth village program as described in s. 118.42, the judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner shall receive written notice of such action and, on receipt of that notice, shall enter an order requiring compliance with that agreement. A notice of deferred prosecution of an alleged delinquency case shall include a summary of the facts surrounding the allegation and a list of prior intake referrals and dispositions. If a law enforcement officer has made a recommendation concerning the juvenile, the intake worker shall forward this recommendation to the district attorney under s. 938.09. Notwithstanding the requirements of this section, the district attorney may initiate a delinquency petition under s. 938.25 within 20 days after notice that the case has been closed or that a deferred prosecution agreement has been entered into. The judge shall grant appropriate relief as provided in s. 938.315 (3) with respect to any such petition which is not referred or filed within the time limits specified within this subsection. Failure to object if a petition is not referred or filed within a time limit specified in this subsection waives that time limit.

**SECTION** 330. 938.245 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

938.245 (3) The obligations imposed under a deferred prosecution agreement and its effective date shall be set forth in writing. If the deferred prosecution agreement places the juvenile in a youth village program under sub. (2) (a) 9., the

judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner shall receive written notice that a deferred prosecution agreement has been entered into and, on receipt of that notice, shall enter an order requiring compliance with that agreement. The juvenile and a parent, guardian and legal custodian shall receive a copy of the agreement and order, as shall any agency providing services under the agreement.

**SECTION** 331. 938.30 (9) of the statutes is amended to read:

938.30 (9) If a <u>circuit</u> court commissioner conducts the plea hearing and accepts an admission of the alleged facts in a petition brought under s. 938.12 or 938.13, the judge shall review the admission at the beginning of the dispositional hearing by addressing the parties and making the inquires set forth in sub. (8).

**SECTION** 332. 938.32 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

938.32 (1) (a) At any time after the filing of a petition for a proceeding relating to s. 938.12 or 938.13 and before the entry of judgment, the judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner may suspend the proceedings and place the juvenile under supervision in the juvenile's own home or present placement or in a youth village program as described in s. 118.42. The court may establish terms and conditions applicable to the parent, guardian or legal custodian, and to the juvenile, including any of the conditions specified in subs. (Id), (1g), (1m), (It), (1v) and (lx). The order under this section shall be known as a consent decree and must be agreed to by the juvenile; the parent, guardian or legal custodian; and the person filing the petition under s. 938.25. If the consent decree includes any conditions specified in sub. (lg), the consent decree shall include provisions for payment of the services as specified in s. 938.361. The consent decree shall be reduced to writing and given to the parties.

**SECTION** 333. 938.32 (1d) of the statutes is amended to read:

938.32 (1d) If the petition alleges that the juvenile has committed an act that would constitute a misdemeanor if committed by an adult, if the chief judge of the judicial administrative district has approved under s. 973.11 (2) a volunteers in probation program established in the juvenile's county of residence and if the judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner determines that volunteer supervision under that volunteers in probation program will likely benefit the juvenile and the community, the judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner may establish as a condition under sub. (1) that the juvenile be placed with that volunteers in probation program under such conditions as the judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner determines are reasonable and appropriate. These conditions may include, but need not be limited to, any of the following:

- (a) A directive to a volunteer to provide for the juvenile a role model, informal counseling, general monitoring and monitoring of the conditions established by the judge or <u>juvenile</u> circuit court commissioner, or any combination of these functions.
- (b) Any other conditions that the judge or <u>juvenile circuit</u> court commissioner may establish under this section.

SECTION 334. 938.32 (lg) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

938.32 (**Ig**) (intro.) If the petition alleges that the juvenile committed a violation specified under ch. 961 and if the multidisciplinary screen conducted under s. 938.24 (2) shows that the juvenile is at risk of having needs and problems related to the use of alcohol beverages, controlled substances or controlled substance analogs and its medical, personal, family and social effects, the judge or <u>juvenile circuit</u> court commissioner may establish as a condition under sub. (1) any of the following:

**SECTION** 335. 938.32 (lm) (intro.) and (a) of the statutes are amended to read:

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938.32 (lm) The judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner may establish as a condition under sub. (1) that the juvenile be placed in a teen court program if all of the following conditions apply:

(a) The chief judge of the judicial administrative district has approved a teen court program established in the juvenile's county of residence and the judge or <u>juvenile circuit</u> court commissioner determines that participation in the teen court program will likely benefit the juvenile and the community.

**SECTION** 336. 938.32 (1t) (a) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

938.32 (1t) (a) 1. Subject to subd. 3., if the petition alleges that the juvenile committed a delinquent act that has resulted in damage to the property of another, or in actual physical injury to another excluding pain and suffering, the judge or <del>juvenile</del> circuit court commissioner may require the juvenile as a condition of the consent decree, to repair the damage to property or to make reasonable restitution for the damage or injury, either in the form of cash payments or, if the victim agrees, the performance of services for the victim, or both, if the judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner, after taking into consideration the well-being and needs of the victim, considers it beneficial to the well-being and behavior of the juvenile. Any consent decree that includes a condition of restitution by a juvenile shall include a finding that the juvenile alone is financially able to pay or physically able to perform the services, may allow up to the date of the expiration of the consent decree for the payment or for the completion of the services and may include a schedule for the performance and completion of the services. Objection by the juvenile to the amount of damages claimed shall entitle the juvenile to a hearing on the question of damages before the amount of restitution is made part of the consent decree. Any recovery

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under this subdivision shall be reduced by the amount recovered as restitution for the same act under subd. lm.

**SECTION** 337. 938.32 (1t) (a) lm. of the statutes is amended to read:

938.32 (1t) (a) lm. If the petition alleges that the juvenile has committed a delinquent act that has resulted in damage to the property of another, or in actual physical injury to another excluding pain and suffering, the judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner may require a parent who has custody, as defined in s. 895.035 (1), of the juvenile, as a condition of the consent decree, to make reasonable restitution for the damage or injury. Except for recovery for retail theft under s. 943.51, the maximum amount of any restitution ordered under this subdivision for damage or injury resulting from any one act of a juvenile or from the same act committed by 2 or more juveniles in the custody of the same parent may not exceed the amount specified in s. 799.01(1)(d). Any consent decree that includes a condition of restitution by a parent who has custody of the juvenile shall include a finding that the parent who has custody of the juvenile is financially able to pay the amount ordered and may allow up to the date of the expiration of the consent decree for the payment. Objection by the parent to the amount of damages claimed shall entitle the parent to a hearing on the question of damages before the amount of restitution is made part of the consent decree. Any recovery under this subdivision shall be reduced by the amount recovered as restitution for the same act under subd. 1.

**SECTION** 338. 938.32 (1t) (a) 3. of the statutes is amended to read:

938.32 (**1t**) (a) 3. Under this paragraph, a judge or <u>juvenile</u> c<u>ircuit</u> court commissioner may not order a juvenile who is under 14 years of age to make more than \$250 in restitution or to perform more than 40 total hours of services for the victim as restitution.

**SECTION** 339. 938.32 (1v) of the statutes is amended to read:

938.32 (1v) If the petition alleges that the juvenile is in need of protection or services under s. 938.13 (6), the judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner may establish as a condition under sub. (1) that the juvenile's parent, guardian or legal custodian attend school with the juvenile.

**SECTION** 340. 938.32 (lx) of the statutes is amended to read:

938.32 (lx) If the petition alleges that the juvenile violated s. 943.017 and the juvenile has attained the minimum age at which a juvenile may be adjudicated delinquent, the judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner may require, as a condition of the consent decree, that the juvenile participate for not less than 10 hours nor more than 100 hours in a supervised work program under s. 938.34 (5g) or perform not less than 10 hours nor more than 100 hours of other community service work, except that if the juvenile has not attained 14 years of age the maximum number of hours is 40.

**SECTION** 341. 938.32 (2) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

938.32 (2) (a) A consent decree shall remain in effect for up to one year unless the juvenile, parent, guardian or legal custodian is discharged sooner by the judge or <u>juvenile circuit</u> court commissioner.

**SECTION** 342. 938.32 (6) of the statutes is amended to read:

938.32 (6) The judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner shall inform the juvenile and the juvenile's parent, guardian or legal custodian, in writing, of the juvenile's right to object to the continuation of the consent decree under sub. (3) and of the fact that the hearing under which the juvenile was placed on supervision may be continued to conclusion as if the consent decree had never been entered.

**SECTION** 343. 940.203 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

940.203 (1) (b) "Judge" means a supreme court justice, court of appeals judge,
circuit court judge, municipal judge, temporary or permanent reserve judge or
juvenile, probate, family or other circuit. supnlemental or municipal court
commissioner.

**SECTION** 344. 943.013 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

943.013 **(1)** (b) "Judge" means a supreme court justice, court of appeals judge, circuit court judge, municipal judge, temporary or permanent reserve judge or juvenile, probate, family or other circuit. susnlemental or municipal court commissioner.

**SECTION** 345. 946.495 of the statutes is amended to read:

**946.495 Violation of nonsecure custody order.** If a person has been placed in nonsecure custody by an intake worker under s. 938.207 or by a judge or juvenile circuit court commissioner under s. 938.21 (4) and the person is alleged to be delinquent under s. 938.12, alleged to be in need of protection or services under s. 938.13 (12) or has been taken into custody for committing an act that is a violation of a state or federal criminal law, the person is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor if he or she intentionally fails to comply with the conditions of his or her placement in nonsecure custody.

**Section** 346. 967.07 of the statutes is amended to read:

**967.07 Court Circuit court commissioners.** A circuit court commissioner may exercise powers or perform duties specified for a judge if such action is permitted under s. 757.69.

**SECTION** 347. 971.20 (3) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

971.20 (3) (a) In this subsection, "judge" includes a <u>circuit</u> court commissioner who is assigned to conduct the preliminary examination.

**SECTION** 348. 973.20 (13) (c) 4. of the statutes is amended to read:

973.20 (13) (c) 4. Refer the disputed restitution issues to a <u>circuit</u> court commissioner or other appropriate referee, who shall conduct a hearing on the matter and submit the record thereof, together with proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law, to the court within 60 days of the date of referral. Within 30 days after the referee's report is filed, the court shall determine the amount of restitution on the basis of the record submitted by the referee and incorporate it into the sentence or probation order imposed. The judge may direct that hearings under this subdivision be recorded either by audio recorder or by a court reporter. A transcript is not required unless ordered by the judge.

**SECTION** 349. 977.05 (6) (b) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

977.05 (6) (b) 2. The judge or <u>family circuit</u> court commissioner before whom the proceedings shall be held certifies to the state public defender that the person will not be incarcerated if he or she is found in contempt of court.

**SECTION** 350. 979.05 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

979.05 (1) An inquest shall be conducted by a circuit judge or a <u>circuit</u> court commissioner.

**SECTION** 351. 979.05 (2) of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

979.05 (2) The inquest shall be conducted before a jury unless the district attorney, coroner or medical examiner requests that the inquest be conducted before the judge or circuit court commissioner only. If the inquest is to be conducted before a jury, a sufficient number of names of prospective jurors shall be selected from the prospective juror list for the county in which the inquest is to be held by the clerk of circuit court in the manner provided in s. 756.06. The judge or circuit court commissioner conducting the inquest shall summon the prospective jurors to appear

before the judge or circuit court commissioner at the time fixed in the summons. The summons may be served by mail, or by personal service if the judge, circuit court commissioner or district attorney determines personal service to be appropriate. The summons shall be in the form used to summon petit jurors in the circuit courts of the county. Any person who fails to appear when summoned as an inquest juror is subject to a forfeiture of not more than \$40. The inquest jury shall consist of 6 jurors. If 6 jurors do not remain from the number originally summoned after establishment of qualifications, the judge or circuit court commissioner conducting the inquest may require the clerk of the circuit court to select sufficient additional jurors' names. Those persons shall be summoned forthwith by the sheriff of the county.

**SECTION** 352. 979.05 (3) of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

979.05 (3) The judge *or* circuit court commissioner shall examine on oath or affirmation each person who is called as a juror to discover whether the juror is related by blood or marriage to the decedent, any member of the decedent's family, the district attorney, any other attorney appearing in the case, any members of the office of the district attorney or any other attorney appearing in the case or has expressed or formed any opinion regarding the matters being inquired into or is aware of or has any bias or prejudice concerning the matters being inquired into in the inquest. If any prospective juror is found to be not indifferent or is found to have formed an opinion which cannot be laid aside, that juror shall be excused. The judge or circuit court commissioner may select one or more alternate jurors if the inquest is likely to be protracted. This subsection does not limit the right of the district attorney to supplement the judge's or circuit court commissioner's examination of any prospective jurors as to qualifications.

**SECTION** 353. 979.05 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

979.05 (4) When 6 jurors have been selected, the judge or circuit court commissioner shall administer to them an oath or affirmation which shall be substantially in the following form:

You do solemnly swear (affirm) that you will diligently inquire and determine on behalf of this state when, and in what manner and by what means, the person known as . . . . . . . . who is now dead came to his or her death and that you will return a true verdict thereon according to your knowledge, according to the evidence presented and according to the instructions given to you by the . . . . (judge) (circuit court commissioner).

Section 354. 979.05 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

979.05 (5) Prior to the submission of evidence to the jury, the judge or circuit court commissioner may instruct the jury on its duties and on the substantive law regarding the issues which may be inquired into before the jury. The district attorney may, at any time during the course of the inquest, make statements to the jury relating to procedural or evidentiary matters he or she and the judge or circuit court commissioner deem appropriate. Section 972.12 applies to the conduct of the inquest jury.

SECTION 355. 979.05 (6) of the statutes is amended to read:

979.05 (6) The judge or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner conducting the inquest may order that proceedings be secret if the district attorney so requests or concurs.

SECTION 356. 979.06 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

979.06 (1) The judge or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner may issue subpoenas for witnesses at the request of the coroner or medical examiner and shall issue subpoenas for witnesses requested by the district attorney. Subpoenas are returnable at the time and place stated therein. Persons who are served with a

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subpoena may be compelled to attend	proceedings in th	e manner	provided i	in s
885.12.				

**SECTION** 357. 979.06 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

979.06 (2) The judge or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner conducting the inquest and the district attorney may require by subpoena the attendance of one or more expert witnesses, including physicians, surgeons and pathologists, for the purposes of conducting an examination of the body and all relevant and material scientific and medical tests connected with the examination and testifying as to the results of the examination and tests. The expert witnesses so subpoenaed shall receive reasonable fees determined by the district attorney and the judge or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner conducting the inquest.

**SECTION** 358. 979.06 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

979.06 (3) Any witness examined at an inquest may have counsel present during the examination of that witness. The counsel may not examine or cross-examine his or her client, cross-examine or call other witnesses or argue before the judge or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner holding the inquest.

**SECTION** 359. 979.06 (4) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

979.06 (4) (intro.) The judge or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner shall administer an oath or affirmation to each witness which shall be substantially in the following form:

**SECTION** 360. 979.06 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

979.06 (5) The judge or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner conducting the inquest shall cause the testimony given by all witnesses to be reduced to writing or recorded and may employ stenographers to take and transcribe all of the testimony. The stenographer shall receive reimbursement at a reasonable rate for each appearance

and transcription at rates in accordance with the customary charges in the area for similar services.

**SECTION 361.** 979.08 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

979.08 (1) When the evidence is concluded and the testimony closed, the judge or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner shall instruct the jury on its duties and on the substantive law regarding the issues inquired into before the jury. The district attorney shall prepare a written set of appropriate requested instructions and shall submit them to the judge or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner who, together with the district attorney, shall compile the final set of instructions which shall be given. The instructions shall include those criminal offenses for which the judge or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner believes a reasonable jury might return a verdict based upon a finding of probable cause.

**SECTION** 362. 979.08 (3) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

979.08 (3) (intro.) The jury shall retire to consider its verdict after hearing all of the testimony and evidence, making all necessary inquiries and having been instructed in the law. The judge or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner shall provide the jury with one complete set of written instructions providing the substantive law to be applied to the issues to be decided. The verdict shall be in a form which permits the following findings:

**SECTION** 363. 979.08 (6) of the statutes is amended to read:

979.08 (6) Any verdict so rendered, after being validated and signed by the judge or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner, together with the record of the inquest, shall be delivered to the district attorney for consideration. After considering the verdict and record, the district attorney may deliver the entire inquest record or any part thereof to the coroner or medical examiner for safekeeping.

SECTION	364	979 08	(7) of the	statutes is	amended t	o read
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979.08 (7) The record of a secret inquest proceeding shall not be open for inspection unless so ordered by the judge or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner conducting the inquest upon petition by the district attorney.

**SECTION** 365. 979.09 of the statutes is amended to read:

979.09 Burial of body. If any judge or <u>circuit</u> court commissioner conducts an inquest as to the death of a stranger or of a person whose identity is unknown or whose body is unclaimed or if the district attorney determines that no inquest into the death of such a person is necessary and the circuit judge has not ordered an inquest under s. 979.04 (2), the coroner or medical examiner shall cause the body to be decently buried or cremated and shall certify to all the charges incurred in taking any inquest by him or her and to the expenses of burial or cremation of the dead body. The charges and expenses shall be audited by the county board of the proper county and paid out of the county treasury.

## SECTION 366. Initial applicability.

(1) This act first applies to actions commenced on the effective date of this subsection.

## **SECTION 367. Effective date.**

(1) This act takes effect on the first day of the 2nd month beginning after publication.

(END)