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March 2, 2007

Mr. A. John Voelker
Director of State Courts
P.O. Box 1688
Madison, WI 53701-1688

Dear Mr. Voelker:

I am writing as a follow-up to my January 23 letter to you and your February 6 response.

In your February 6 letter, you stated that there is currently a committee in the process of forming legislative recommendations clarifying the legal authority for the use of video conferencing in court proceedings. You added that you will ask the committee to consider if legislative changes are necessary to utilize video conferencing in the event of a pandemic.

I would appreciate it if you could keep me up to date regarding the activities of that committee. While the Joint Legislative Council study committee that I am chairing is about to end, I am also chair of the Assembly Committee on Homeland Security and State Preparedness. Acting in that capacity, I would be interested in reviewing any proposals that your committee brings forth with regard to video conferencing in the courtroom.

Thank you for giving your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Representative Joan Ballweg, Chair
Special Committee on Disaster Preparedness Planning

JB:wu