



**For Immediate Release**  
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**MUNICIPAL JUDGE MARILYN TOWNSEND ANNOUNCES HER  
CANDIDACY FOR DANE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT**

Long-time advocate for workers' rights seeks Circuit Court position

**MADISON** – Marilyn Townsend, who is in her third term as the Municipal Court Judge for the Village of Shorewood Hills, announced her candidacy for Dane County Circuit Court, Branch 12, today in Madison. Judge Townsend maintains a full-time law practice where she represents working men and women in cases arising from employment discrimination, the wrongful denial of insurance claims, and arbitrary decisions of government agencies.

Townsend said, “I would bring a unique perspective to the Court. None of the current Circuit Court judges have the history and experience that I have had fighting on behalf of working men and women.” Townsend added, “Judges are on the front lines when it comes to Justice, and I am committed to ensuring that all people get fair and equitable treatment under the law.”

Last month, Judge Townsend appeared before the Wisconsin Supreme Court on behalf of a former Walgreens employee who was denied unemployment compensation under a recent law that permits the denial of compensation for “substantial fault.” Townsend argued, as the court of appeals had found, that this new law was not intended to deny unemployment benefits to employees who make inadvertent errors on the job.

Townsend is endorsed by hundreds of community leaders, including former Lieutenant Governor Barbara Lawton, former Attorney General Peg Lautenschlager, Senator Fred Risser, Court of Appeals Judge JoAnne Kloppenburg, State Reps. Chris Taylor, Terese Berceau, and Dianne Hesselbein, and former State legislators Joe Wineke, Spencer Black, Kelda Helen Roys, David Clarenbach, and Dave Travis, and former Wisconsin State AFL-CIO President David Newby.

In endorsing Judge Townsend, Senator Risser said, “I have known Marilyn for 30 years. She is a reliable progressive, and has contributed to our community as a Judge, a lawyer and a municipal legislator.” Representative Taylor declared that Townsend, “has been a champion for civil and constitutional rights, and has dedicated her life to making justice accessible to all.”

Townsend is married to Madison attorney Fred Wade, and they have three children.

Dane County Circuit Court Branch 12 is currently occupied by Judge Clay Kawski. Judge Kawski was appointed by Governor Walker after Judge David Flanagan retired in August and has not indicated whether he will seek election. The election takes place on April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

To learn more visit [judgetownsendforcircuitcourt.com](http://judgetownsendforcircuitcourt.com) or [facebook.com/judgetownsendforcircuitcourt](https://facebook.com/judgetownsendforcircuitcourt)

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Paid for by Judge Townsend for Circuit Court Committee