The Supreme Court of Phio 65 SOUTH FRONT STREET, COLUMBUS, OH

CHIEF JUSTICE MAUREEN O'CONNOR

JUSTICE PAT DEWINE

JUSTICES TERRENCE O'DONNELL SHARON L. KENNEDY JUDITH L. FRENCH WILLIAM M. O'NEILL PATRICK F. FISCHER R. PATRICK DEWINE

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December 6, 2018

Dear Concerned Citizen,

Thank you for your email regarding the proposed changes to the Rules of Superintendence for the Courts of Ohio and the related protection order forms. As you may know, on July 17, 2018, a majority of the Supreme Court voted to send these proposed changes out for public comment. I opposed the changes at that time and as a consequence voted against sending them out for public comment. I continue to oppose the changes as currently proposed and will not support them when they return to the Court for a final vote next year.

As Justices of the Ohio Supreme Court, we take an oath of office to support the constitution of the State of Ohio and the constitution of the United States. It is critical that any rules that we pass comport with constitutional guarantees.

I appreciate the fact that so many citizens have taken the time to express their opposition to the proposed changes. I am hopeful that as a result of this outpouring of public comment, a Court majority will reconsider the currently-proposed amendments.

Sincerely,

Justice Pat DeWine

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