Michigan Judges Association
Founded 1927

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May 4, 2015

Larry Royster
Clerk of the Court
Michigan Supreme Court
P.O. Box 30052
Lansing, MI 48909

RE: Proposed Amendments of the Michigan Court Rules

Dear Clerk Royster:

At the April 16, 2015 meeting of the Michigan Judges Association, the Executive Board considered and acted upon the following proposed amendments to the Michigan Court Rules:

ADM File No. 2014-11. This proposed amendment of MCR 3.613 would require a minor to execute a written consent for a name change in the presence of a judge. The Executive Board of the Michigan Judges Association voted to OPPOSE this amendment. The current court rule does not require a minor's signature to be made in front of a judge (MCR 3.613(B), and the Board determined insufficient need for such a change.

ADM File No. 2014-49. The proposed amendments to MCR 3.903, 3.920, 3.961, and 3.965 would provide clarification and procedural provisions consistent with the holding in *In Re Sanders*, 495 Mich 394 (2014). The Executive Board of the Michigan Judges Association voted to SUPPORT these amendments.

ADM File No. 2014-24. This proposal authorizes a two-year pilot project to test Summary Jury Trials in the 16th Circuit Court (and other courts as approved by the Michigan Supreme Court). The Executive Board of the Michigan Judges Association voted to SUPPORT this proposal, as it provides an opportunity to test whether new procedures may improve the judiciary's goal of achieving the just, speedy, and economical determination of every action.

ADM File No. 2104-15. This proposed amendment of MCR 6.106 would permit courts to exercise their inherent power to order conditions that limit or prohibit a defendant's contact with any named person or persons "if the court determines the limitation or prohibition is necessary to maintain the integrity of the judicial proceedings." The Executive Board of the Michigan Judges Association recognizes the court's inherent authority to impose conditions on pretrial detainees, and voted to SUPPORT this amendment.

We thank the Court for considering our input on these matters. If the Michigan Judges Association may provide any further information or assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Hon. Colleen A. O'Brien, President
Michigan Judges Association

CC: Hon. Robert Young, Chief Justice Michigan Supreme Court
Hon. Jon Van Allsburg, Rules Committee Chairperson, Michigan Judges Association
Hon. Joan E. Young, Family Law Committee Chairperson, Michigan Judges Association
Hon. Laura L. Baird, President-Elect, Michigan Judges Association
Anne Boomer, Administrative Counsel, Michigan Supreme Court