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January 11, 2016

Office of Administrative Counsel  
P.O. Box 30052  
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ADMcomment@courts.mi.gov

**Re: ADM File No. 2014-13 – Proposed Amendment of Rule 2.403 of the Michigan Court Rules**

Dear Michigan Supreme Court:

I am writing to comment on the proposed amendment to MCR 2.403 that would shorten the time period to accept or reject a case evaluation award from 28 days to 14 days.

As Corporation Counsel for Oakland County, I am opposed to the proposed rule because the County's settlement approval process typically cannot be completed within 14 days. The Oakland County Board of Commissioners adopted a resolution that requires the County's Claims Review Committee to approve all settlement awards above \$25,000.00, with additional approval required from the Finance Committee of the Board of Commissioners for settlement awards above \$100,000.00. Without the appropriate committee approval, counsel for the County lacks the authority required to accept or reject a case evaluation award. Difficulties are likely to arise with obtaining approval of an award if the committee's regularly scheduled meeting does not occur within the 14 day time frame, or if approval is required of both committees within 14 days.

I request that the proposed amendment to MCR 2.403 not be adopted.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

OAKLAND COUNTY CORPORATION COUNSEL

  
Keith J. Lermينياux  
Corporation Counsel