



p 517-346-6300
p 800-968-1442
f 517-482-6248
www.michbar.org

March 29, 2018
Larry Royster
Clerk of the Court
Michigan Supreme Court
P.O. Box 30052
Lansing, MI 48909

306 Townsend Street
Michael Franck Building
Lansing, MI
48933-2012

RE: ADM File No. 2016-30: Proposed Amendments of Rules 9.112 and 9.131 of the Michigan Court Rules

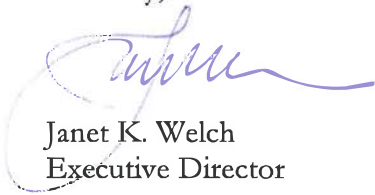
Dear Clerk Royster:

At its March 20, 2018 meeting, the State Bar of Michigan Executive Committee considered the above-referenced proposed rule amendments published by the Court for comment.¹ As part of its review, the Executive Committee considered recommendations from the Professional Ethics Committee and Public Policy Committee.

After this review, the Executive Committee voted unanimously to support the proposed amendments with the recommendation that the Court consider whether the use of the term “spouse” is too limited to fully address the perceived conflict of interest issue that led to this rule proposal, and might be amended to include other domestic relationships, such as significant others, domestic partners, or other adult relatives.

We thank the Court for the opportunity to convey the State Bar’s position on this rule proposal.

Sincerely,



Janet K. Welch
Executive Director

cc: Anne Boomer, Administrative Counsel, Michigan Supreme Court
Donald G. Rockwell, President, State Bar of Michigan

¹ Under Article III, §9 of the State Bar of Michigan Bylaws, “[t]he Executive Committee may take a position on a proposed Court Rule if the deadline for a response does not allow for consideration by the Board, provided the position is not inconsistent with policies adopted by the Board or Representative Assembly.”