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August 28, 2018

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

RE: ADM File No. 2017-16: Proposed Amendment of Rule 6.302 of the Michigan Court Rules

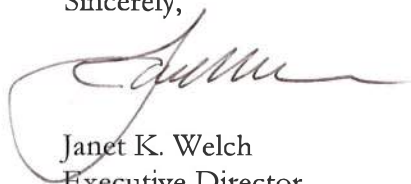
Dear Clerk Royster:

At its July 27, 2018 meeting, the State Bar of Michigan Board of Commissioners (Board) considered the above-referenced proposed rule amendment published by the Court for comment. As part of its review, the Board considered recommendations from the Access to Justice Policy Committee, Criminal Jurisprudence & Practice Committee, and Criminal Law Section, all of which supported the proposed rule amendment.

After this review, the Board voted unanimously to support the proposed amendment of MCR 6.302. This rule amendment better ensures that criminal defendants understand the rights to appeal they are waiving when they accept a plea. The proposed rule amendment will also help to contribute to a knowing and voluntary plea, thereby avoiding a waste of judicial resources on appeal from defendants who assert that they did not fully understand what rights they were waiving.

We thank the Court for the opportunity to convey the Board'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