



# Justice for All Task Force Town Hall Meetings

## FACT:

In three out of four civil cases, at least one party represents themselves in court because they can't afford an attorney.

## FACT:

The right to a lawyer only applies in criminal cases, not civil cases. However, people who have done nothing wrong often lose their cases in court because they don't have the legal information or help they need.

These FACTS tell the story of the CIVIL JUSTICE GAP.

## SOLUTION:

To tackle the civil justice gap, the Michigan Supreme Court formed the Justice for All Task Force. The Task Force is inventorying available resources, identifying gaps, and developing a plan to achieve **100 PERCENT ACCESS**.



At two public meetings, the Justice for All Task Force wants to hear from the public in order to:

- Assess the impact of the civil justice gap on Michigan families and businesses.
- Identify available resources to fill gaps and tear down barriers to access.



*Chief Justice Bridget M. McCormack and Justice Brian K. Zahra (the court's representative on the Task Force) will open the meetings with short statements and moderate public testimony. Local officials and representatives of community service organizations will also be invited to share their views. Those who want to speak will be invited to fill out a speaker's card and a time limit will be set based on the number of speakers.*

Meeting # 1 **GRAND RAPIDS**  
Friday, February 14, 2020  
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
Grand Rapids Center for Community  
Transformation  
1530 Madison Avenue SE  
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49507

Meeting #2 **DETROIT**  
Monday, February 24, 2020  
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.  
International Brotherhood of Electrical  
Workers Union Hall  
1358 Abbott St.  
Detroit, Michigan 48226



MORE INFORMATION: Visit the Task Force webpage, [www.courts.mi.gov/jfa](http://www.courts.mi.gov/jfa)

