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March 1, 2018

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

RE: ADM File No. 2014-36: Proposed Amendment of Rule 6.425 of the Michigan Court Rules

Dear Clerk Royster:

At its February 13, 2018 meeting, the State Bar of Michigan Executive Committee considered the above-referenced proposed rule amendment published by the Court for comment.¹ As part of its review, the Executive Committee considered recommendations from the Access to Justice Policy Committee, Criminal Jurisprudence & Practice Committee, Appellate Practice Section, Criminal Law Section, and Public Policy Committee. All of these entities recommended that the State Bar of Michigan support the rule proposal.

After this review, the Executive Committee voted unanimously to support the proposed amendments to MCR 6.425, as they reflect recent changes to the assignment process for the Michigan Appellate Assigned Counsel System.

The Executive Committee notes that ADM 2017-08 is currently pending before the Court, which the State Bar of Michigan also supports. Because ADM 2017-08 proposes amendments to MCR 6.425(G), the Executive Committee requests that the Court ensure that the language in ADM 2017-08 is consistent with the language in ADM 2014-36 should the Court decide to adopt both rule proposals.

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."