

June 28, 2021

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

**RE: ADM File No. 2021-09 – Amendment of Rule 3.944 of the Michigan Court Rules**

Dear Clerk Royster:

At its June 11, 2021 meeting, the Board of Commissioners of the State Bar of Michigan considered ADM File No. 2021-09. In its review, the Board considered recommendations from the Access to Justice Policy Committee and Criminal Jurisprudence & Practice Committee.

The Board voted unanimously to support the amendment to Rule 3.944 with the recommendation that the rule include more specific criteria about the qualifications of the person conducting the mental health or substance abuse assessment and that the assessment is done in a culturally competent manner.

We thank the Court for the opportunity to comment on the amendment.

Sincerely,



Janet K. Welch  
Executive Director

cc: Anne Boomer, Administrative Counsel, Michigan Supreme Court  
Robert J. Buchanan, President