

December 19, 2025

Elizabeth C. Kingston-Miller  
Clerk of the Court  
Michigan Supreme Court  
P.O. Box 30052  
Lansing, MI 48909

**RE: ADM File No. 2023-39: Proposed Amendment of Rule 7.215 of the Michigan Court Rules**

Dear Clerk Kingston-Miller:

The Board of Commissioners of the State Bar of Michigan considered ADM File No. 2023-39 at its meeting on November 19, 2025. In its review, the Board considered recommendations from the Access to Justice Policy Committee, Criminal Jurisprudence & Practice Committee, Civil Procedure & Courts Committee, and the Children's Law, Appellate Practice, and Negligence Law Sections. The Board voted unanimously to support the proposed amendment of Rule 7.215 with a further amendment of the final sentence of Rule 7.215(C)(1) to read: “A party who cites an unpublished opinion must provide the docket number and date of decision as part of the citation.”

The Board believes that requiring parties to provide a copy of an unpublished opinion to the court and opposing parties is antiquated and unnecessary today. It should be eliminated. At the same time, the Board took note of the fact that many attorneys currently rely on citations to subscription-based legal research platforms (e.g., Westlaw, LexisNexis, etc.) that are not available to all parties under all circumstances. Requiring parties to provide the docket number and date of decision will ensure that all parties and the court can easily access any unpublished opinion.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed amendment.

Sincerely,



Peter Cunningham  
Executive Director

cc: Sarah Roth, Administrative Counsel, Michigan Supreme Court  
Lisa J. Hamameh, President

