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August 26, 2011

Supreme Court Clerk  
P.O. Box 30052  
Lansing, MI 48909

2010-07

To the Party Concerned:

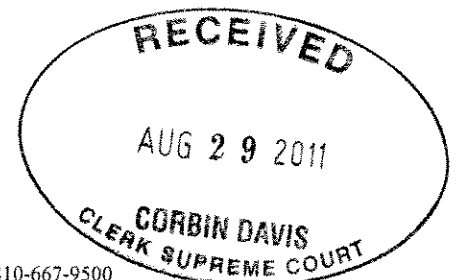
I write in express opposition to proposed changes to MRPC 1.5 intended to restrict referral fees to 25% of the amount recovered.

I have been a plaintiff personal injury lawyer in Michigan for 33 years. It is vitally important that referrals be encouraged to avoid having lawyers not qualified to handle certain types of cases attempt to do so because they do not want to refer the case out. An appropriate referral fee is helpful in terms of protecting the public in these circumstances.

The proposed changes to MRPC 1.5 further violate fundamental rights of contract existing between counsel. This is an arm's length transaction among highly educated individuals. This situation in my view does not require an arbitrary limitation.

Finally, a proponent to the changes to MRPC 1.5 has made no secret of the fact that he does not like attorneys who advertise. In the current vernacular, the statement should be made to "get over it." Attorney advertising, whether people like it or do not like it, is a legitimate exercise of First Amendment rights and it is here to stay.

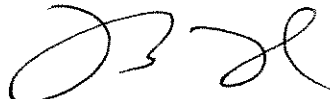
I appreciate the Supreme Court's consideration of my comments in this matter.



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Thank you for your kind attention in this matter.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JBO', written in a cursive style.

Jules B. Olsman

JBO:bb