

STATEMENT OF CHIEF JUDGE WILLIAM WHITBECK ON THE PASSING OF JUDGE
MARTIN DOCTOROFF

It is with enormous sadness that I join today with the Judges and staff of the Michigan Court of Appeals in mourning the passing of our colleague and friend Judge Martin Doctoroff, who died peacefully in his sleep last night. Governor Blanchard appointed Judge Doctoroff to the Michigan Court of Appeals in April of 1987 and he served our Court and the people of the State of Michigan with great ability, great energy, and great devotion from that time until the present; indeed, he was Chief Judge of our Court from 1992 to 1997. As I commented when Judge Doctoroff earlier announced his retirement from our Court, three years ago he was afflicted with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis -- commonly known as ALS or "Lou Gehrig's disease" -- and he faced the physical adversity that comes with that terrible disease with grace, dignity, and simple courage. Our thoughts and prayers are with Judge Doctoroff's family in this time of sadness. Judge Doctoroff was a good man and a good judge and we shall miss him.
