



Michigan Supreme Court

State Court Administrative Office
Michigan Hall of Justice
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Lansing, Michigan 48909
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Thomas P. Boyd
State Court Administrator

MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 6, 2020

TO: Family Court Judges

FROM: Thomas P. Boyd

SUBJECT: Concerns Raised Regarding Averhealth Drug Test Results

Concerns have been brought to our attention regarding the accuracy of drug testing results provided by Averhealth, the company under contract with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) to provide substance use testing services to families involved in the child welfare system.

In 2019, an Averhealth employee error led to 13 false positive test results. This was described as a one-time employee error, and was remedied by Averhealth providing written documentation to each client to explain the error, and adopting new procedures to provide more oversight of the testing processes. Recently, there was another false positive drug test that was submitted in a court proceeding. In addition, we have been informed that allegations have been raised regarding Averhealth employee practices not complying with the company's accreditation standards. MDHHS is currently investigating these allegations. We will provide additional information as it becomes available.