



REGIONAL *Quick Tip*

STATE COURT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

Fee Waivers

On December 3, 2018, the Michigan Supreme Court adopted amendments to MCR 2.002 which went into effect on January 1, 2019, and substantially changed the fee waiver process. Our office issued memorandums discussing the changes on [December 20, 2018](#), and [February 13, 2019](#). This Quick Tip highlights areas where we have noted concern:

- *If a person is receiving public assistance or is represented by a Legal Services Program, fees shall be waived.*
 - *This waiver must be certified (signed) by the Clerk of the Court, not the judge.*
 - *These requests may not be denied.*
- *Some courts have a policy not allowing clerks to sign fee waivers. Clerk certification (signing) is required by court rule. MCR 2.002(C) and (D).*
- *Some Courts are requiring new fee waivers for motions in ongoing cases that already had fee waivers, which does not comport with MCR 2.002(A)(4).*

If you have any questions, please contact me and our office will be happy to assist you.

We welcome your suggestions for future Quick Tips. Please send them to us so that we can share with your colleagues.

Region I:

Paul Paruk

(313) 972-3300

parukp@courts.mi.gov

Region II:

Jodi Latuszek

(517) 373-9353

latuszekj@courts.mi.gov

Region III:

Bruce Kilmer

(989) 772-5934

kilmerb@courts.mi.gov

Region IV:

Jerome Kole

(989) 732-3311

kolej@courts.mi.gov

Region V:

Jill Booth

(517) 373-8679

boothj@courts.mi.gov

Region VI:

Jennifer Phillips

(313) 972-3300

phillipsj@courts.mi.gov

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