

# Guide for Counsel

## In Cases To Be Argued In The Michigan Supreme Court

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## INTRODUCTION

This guide is intended to assist attorneys, especially those who are making their first appearance on the merits, in their written and oral advocacy in cases before the Michigan Supreme Court. In addition to this guide, counsel should carefully review the following resources: Subchapter 7.300 of the Michigan Court Rules; the Michigan Supreme Court Internal Operating Procedures; Chapters 13 and 14 of the *Michigan Appellate Handbook*<sup>1</sup>; Chapter 14 of *Civil Appeals*<sup>2</sup> by Justice Stephen J. Markman; and Chapter 38, pages 858-865, of the ABA Council of Appellate Lawyers' *Appellate Practice Compendium*<sup>3</sup> by John J. Bursch and Gaëtan Gerville-Réache; *A Practitioner's Guide to Effective Advocacy Before the Michigan Supreme Court*, by Mary Massaron Ross, pages 36-41 Michigan Bar Journal (February 2008) and *Tips on Advocacy at the Petition Stage*, by Mary Massaron Ross, pages 41-46, For the Defense (November 2009).

Questions regarding cases to be argued should be directed to the Clerk's Office at (517) 373-0120. Please have your docket number available before placing the call. To view the docket of a particular case, visit the "[Cases, Opinions & Orders](#)" page of the Court's website and select "Case Search." You may search by party name, docket number, or attorney name.

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<sup>1</sup> Brian G. Shannon and Gaëtan Gerville-Réache, eds, *Michigan Appellate Handbook* (ICLE 3d ed. 2014).

<sup>2</sup> Justice Stephen J. Markman *et al.*, *Civil Appeals* (West Group Michigan Practice Guides 2003).

<sup>3</sup> *Appellate Practice Compendium* (ABA Publishing 2012).

## MERITS BRIEFS AND JOINT APPENDIX

### Preparation.

Briefs in calendar cases must be prepared in accordance with MCR 7.312. Supreme Court briefs should address the legal correctness of the appealed disposition; facts are less important than the law. Appellants' briefs must seek to convince the Court to adopt a new rule of law, change an existing rule, construe a statute that has not been interpreted before, or correct a previous construction that you believe is incorrect. Use only those parts of earlier briefs that advance your cause at this point in the proceedings.

The appellant's appendices, if any, must contain: (1) a table of contents; (2) relevant Court of Appeals and lower court docket entries, arranged chronologically in a single column; (3) the trial court judgment, order, or decision being appealed and the Court of Appeals opinion or order; (4) relevant trial court findings or opinions; (5) relevant excerpts of the pleadings and other parts of the record; and (6) the entire jury instructions if you have raised an issue about them, otherwise the relevant portions of the transcript. MCR 7.312(D)(2). If filed in hard copy, the appendices must be separately bound, MCR 7.312(D)(2), and printed on both sides of the page, MCR 7.312(D)(1). Each page number must be followed by the letter "a" (e.g., 1a). MCR 7.312(D)(2).

If an appellee's appendix is filed, it must comply with MCR 7.312(D)(2). An appellee's appendix should only contain parts of the record that are not included in the appellant's appendix; duplicate materials may be included only as necessary for clarification. The page numbers must be followed by the letter "b" (e.g., 1b). MCR 7.312(D)(4).

The parties may stipulate to submit a joint appendix containing all parts of the record that both parties want to bring before the Court. The stipulation may leave the parties free to file supplemental appendixes. MCR 7.312(D)(3). The joint appendix must be separately bound and served with the appellant's brief. MCR 7.312(D)(3).

### **Filing.**

Except when briefs are e-filed through [MiFILE](#), the appellant must file the signed original with the Court. The appellant's brief and appendixes are due within 56 days after the date on the order granting leave to appeal, although that time may be shortened by order of the Court sua sponte or on motion of a party. MCR 7.312(E)(1) & (J)(1). The appellee must file the signed original of its brief and appendix, if any, within 35 days after receiving service of the appellant's brief. MCR 7.312(E)(2). All parties and amici curiae are required to file their briefs within the deadlines outlined in the Michigan Court Rules. See MCR 7.312(E)(1), (E)(2) & (H)(3). Motions to extend time should be filed in advance of the filing deadline and will be granted only for good cause shown. MCR 7.316(B).

A party must serve two copies of its brief and appendix on each attorney who has appeared for a separate party or group of parties and on each party appearing pro se. MCR 7.312(F)(2). In criminal cases and cases in which the state is a party or interested, each party also must serve one copy of its brief and appendix on the Attorney General. MCR 7.312(F)(3).

Beginning February 1, 2020, attorneys must submit their briefs and appendixes through the [MiFILE](#) system. [Admin Order 2014-23](#). Self-represented litigants may use the [MiFILE](#) system or mail/deliver their documents to the Clerk's Office at 925 W. Ottawa Street, P.O. Box 30052, Lansing, MI 48909.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** If you file a brief by mail, filing is complete when the Clerk receives the documents, not on the date you mailed them.

### **Brief Writing Tips in Calendar Cases.**

In drafting briefs for the Supreme Court, you should write clearly and concisely in plain language. Organize your arguments logically to establish your points, without getting sidetracked by tangential issues or inconsequential facts. Proofread carefully, cite-check all cited cases to ensure that they have not been reversed or overruled, and confirm that every case stands for the proposition for which it is cited. Accurately summarize, paraphrase, or cite cases and portions of the record so as not to mislead the Court, whether intentionally or unintentionally. Prioritize your arguments and winnow out those that are less persuasive. A rifle approach will be far more effective than a shotgun. Expressly state the precise relief you are asking the Supreme Court to grant, and explain why that request is supported by the law and facts. Avoid impugning the lower courts, opposing counsel, or other parties.

When preparing your brief, understand your audience. The Justices and their law clerks are generalists. Your brief should educate as well as inform. Give the Court the “big picture” of the applicable area of the law and explain how your case fits within that area. Draw the Court a roadmap of how you expect it to get from point A to point B. Do prior Court of Appeals or Supreme Court cases need to be overruled? Does the common law need to be changed? If so, state this clearly.

Keep in mind that the Court’s priority is to develop or clarify the jurisprudence of the state; it is not necessarily concerned with the details of a particular case. That the Court has agreed to hear oral argument clearly indicates that it has an interest in the ramifications of the case. Explain that significance to the Court and describe how a decision in your favor will have a positive impact beyond resolving your case. On the macro level, tell the Court what you believe the thesis of its opinion should be, and explain why the law supports that thesis. Tell the Court the “rule of law” that you would like it to articulate in your case and all similar cases that will come before the state’s courts. On the micro level, tell the Court how to support that thesis or rule by applying the law to the specific facts of your case.

## RECORDS

The Supreme Court record consists of the lower court record provided on appeal to the Court of Appeals, as well as all documents filed in and generated by the Court of Appeals. MCR 7.310(A). If you appeal after a Court of Appeals decision, you must serve the Court of Appeals clerk with a notice of filing of your application for leave to appeal, and he or she will forward the record to the Supreme Court. If you seek leave to appeal prior to the Court of Appeals decision, the copies of the application for leave to appeal that you serve on the Court of Appeals clerk and the lower court clerk give notice that the Supreme Court will request their records.

The Supreme Court returns hard copy records to the appropriate courts after the Court renders final decisions in the cases. MCR 7.310(B).



## ORAL ARGUMENT

### Scheduling and Arrival.

The Supreme Court holds regular oral argument sessions in the courtroom on the sixth floor of the Michigan Hall of Justice in Lansing. Sessions are also held in communities across the state twice a year (usually in April and October) as part of the [Court Community Connections](#) program. Oral argument sessions are public hearings, open to all citizens and members of the media.

The Supreme Court normally hears arguments in ten to twelve cases over a two-day period in the first or second week of October, November, December, January, March, April, and May. In special or emergency cases, the Court will hold arguments in February, July, August or September. Arguments are conducted in the 6<sup>th</sup> floor courtroom in the Hall of Justice starting at 9:30 a.m., although by tradition the first case of the new term in October is argued in the old Supreme Court courtroom in the State Capitol Building.

Once the attorneys have filed the appeal briefs, the Supreme Court Clerk notifies the attorneys of the session at which they will argue the case. A case will be scheduled for argument not less than 35 days after the date of the notice unless the Court orders it heard earlier. MCR 7.313(B)(1). If you failed to request oral argument on the title page of your brief, you will not be allowed to argue unless you file a motion for oral argument at least 21 days before the first day of the session. MCR 7.313(B)(2).

If neither party reserves the right to oral argument, the Clerk designates the case as submitted on the briefs. MCR 7.312(B)(2). The parties may stipulate at any time that a case be submitted on the briefs. MCR 7.314(A).

Twenty-one days before the session begins, the Clerk posts the schedule of arguments, designating the order in which the cases will be heard, on the [Oral Arguments page](#) of the Court's website. MCR 7.313(C).

Because cases may be withdrawn or dismissed, or because oral arguments in prior cases may run over or end early, it is impossible to predict the exact time at which your case will be called. You should therefore be in the courtroom no later than 9:30 a.m. if your case is being argued in the morning session and by 12:30 p.m. if your case is being argued in the afternoon session.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** You must notify the Clerk's Office in writing of any known vacation plans or other commitments that might conflict with the Court's argument dates for cases in which leave has been granted or arguments will be heard on the application. The Clerk will schedule arguments to avoid conflicts to the extent possible but, once the argument schedule is set, the Court may be unwilling to adjourn a case when a conflict was known but not shared with the Court ahead of time. You should also advise the Clerk of any required accommodations (e.g., a hearing device, easel) ahead of time so that suitable arrangements can be made.

It is good practice to arrive early to ensure that you do not miss your argument and to get a sense of how the Justices are engaged in that day's arguments. Counsel must check in at the Clerk's Office on the 4th floor of the Hall of Justice by 9:15 a.m. if the case is to be argued during the morning session; for cases scheduled in the afternoon session, counsel must check in by 12:15 p.m.

Cases are called by the Chief Justice in the order in which they appear on the schedule unless a case is unable to proceed for some reason (e.g., an attorney's arrival is delayed because of bad weather). Counsel for the appellant sits at the table to the right of the podium (facing the bench) and counsel for the appellee sits at the left side table. Co-counsels may sit at the appropriate attorney tables with primary counsel. Parties, unless acting *in propria persona*, may not sit at the attorney tables during argument.

### **Preparation.**

Your oral argument should emphasize and clarify your written brief but argument is not intended to simply summarize your brief; rather, it is an opportunity to stress the main issues and arguments of the case that might persuade the Court in your favor. The argument you prepare should reflect the unique focus of the Supreme Court. Though precedent is important, your argument should also stress the practical implications of the Court's decision. Prior case holdings may not be as important as they are in the Court of Appeals. The fact that the Supreme Court has granted review suggests that the Justices intend to reexamine the issue rather than automatically follow precedent.

The oral arguments of the Supreme Court are live-streamed on the [Supreme Court's web page](#), and are available for viewing on the Court's [YouTube channel](#) within a day or two of the arguments. If you have not previously appeared before the Court, you should watch several arguments (live or recorded) in advance of your own to get a sense of how to effectively argue before the Court.

Being prepared for oral argument requires a thorough knowledge of the record, the general area of the law governing the case, and the law as applied to the specific facts of record. You should first review all the briefs and the record to get reacquainted with the case. Familiarize yourself with the cases cited in the briefs, as well as all cases that may hold weight in your case. Review and understand the finer points of your opponent's argument, as well as your own. You should be familiar enough with the case that you could argue either side, and be aware of the strengths and weaknesses of both positions.

You should assume that the Justices are familiar with the factual background and procedural history of your case. While you should not focus on the facts and procedural history of the case at oral argument, you should be prepared to answer any questions that arise regarding those aspects of the case.

Be aware that oral argument before the Supreme Court is not simply an occasion to argue the points in your brief. You should re-examine and rethink every aspect of your case to determine whether there is another legal basis that supports your position. The Justices have conducted independent research on your case so you should not be surprised if they approach it from a different perspective than that in the appeal briefs.

The Justices will ask questions that focus the argument on what they view to be the most difficult questions of law. To anticipate their questions and concerns, familiarize yourself with individual Justice's decisions in the relevant area of law. If an earlier Supreme Court opinion is particularly important to your case, note whether any current Justices also participated in that case and, if so, how they voted. This will give you an idea of which Justices are likely to be receptive to your argument and which are likely to be resistant.

In arguing before the Supreme Court, counsel should anticipate a thorough interrogation. Expect numerous questions from the Justices addressing your arguments, as well as those of your opposing counsel. In preparing for your argument, you should try to anticipate the questions Justices will ask and prepare to answer them. Be able to defend the weak points of your position against attacks from your opponent and questions from the Justices.

### **Time.**

When both parties have reserved oral argument in a calendar case, each side is allowed 30 minutes for argument unless the Court's order specifies otherwise. MCR 7.314(B)(1). Many leave granted orders at present specify that oral argument is limited to 20 minutes per side. If only one side appears or is entitled to argument (because, for example, the other party filed its brief late), the time for argument is limited to 15 minutes. MCR 7.314(B)(1) & (2). If a case has multiple appellants or appellees, all parties on the same side must divide the time allotted for argument.

When a case is called by the Chief Justice, the appellant's counsel should step to the podium and begin when the Chief Justice signals either verbally or by turning on the flashing yellow light at the front of the podium. The appellee's counsel should step to the podium when the appellant's counsel steps away and similarly await a verbal signal or the turning on of the flashing yellow light before beginning. Both attorneys should begin by introducing themselves and stating which party or parties they represent.

The Court's current practice is to allow counsel two minutes of uninterrupted argument; a flashing yellow light on the podium marks this period. Use this time to set forth what you consider to be your most important arguments. However, you may waive the uninterrupted period. If you intend to waive, tell the Court at the beginning of your argument. Occasionally, a Justice will ask an attorney to waive the uninterrupted period.



Counsel for the appellant argues first and may reserve time to rebut the appellee's attorney's argument by requesting at the beginning of the initial argument a specified number of minutes for rebuttal. Counsel for the appellee is not entitled to rebuttal. Be aware that the Court is not responsible for keeping track of the time reserved for rebuttal; that is solely the responsibility of the appellant's counsel. If the appellant's counsel uses all thirty minutes in the initial argument, counsel will be denied rebuttal time despite reserving it.

If review was granted on the basis of more than one application, the Court generally indicates the sequence of argument. If no sequence is specified, the parties should assume that the party who filed the first application will argue first.

Expect that you may be subject to questions from the Justices during the entire thirty minutes for argument (or longer if the questioning continues beyond the allotted time). The yellow light indicates that you have five minutes remaining, and the red light indicates that your allotted time is up.

If you do not need all of your allotted time, you should conclude your argument.

### **Mechanics.**

Have your argument well prepared. While outlines and notes are appropriate, the Court looks with disfavor on an argument that is read from prepared text. Think of and present your oral argument as a conversation with the Justices, rather than as a prepared speech. Make and maintain eye contact with the Justices as much as possible. This may allow you to see whether the Justices are following your arguments, or are bored, confused, or disagree with something you have said.

In making your argument, be candid and credible. Start off forcefully, making your strongest points. Just as in your briefing, you should refrain from gratuitous attacks on the lower courts or your opponent. Attempts at humor or sarcasm are risky and should be avoided.

To be an effective advocate for your client, it is important to have a theory of the case and stay on message throughout the argument. Begin by outlining your theory and the main points you intend to make. Give the Justices a roadmap. Don't dwell on the specific facts of your case; instead, provide the Justices with your thesis. Be prepared to explain how you would write the opening and concluding paragraphs of the Court's opinion.

Be ready to argue your case entirely without interruption, but anticipate questions from the Justices. Questions are opportunities to clarify your argument and help the Justices come to your position. The Justices' questions are invaluable clues to what concerns them about the case; embrace the opportunity to alleviate their concerns. Note, however, that the questions and comments of a Justice do not necessarily indicate the manner in which he or she intends to vote or analyze the case. Justices who are favorable to your position may occasionally ask questions that are intended to persuade their colleagues on the bench. Seize these opportunities when they arise.

If a Justice interrupts you when you are speaking, you should stop talking immediately and listen. Promptly addressing a Justice's question is much more important to succeeding in oral argument than continuing with your argument. Listen carefully to what the Justices say in both their comments to you and to opposing counsel. Be flexible enough to respond affirmatively to new theories or new interpretations set forth by the bench. If you do not understand a question, ask the Justice to clarify it. If you don't know the answer to a question, don't guess. If you are wrong, the Justices will think that you are either attempting to mislead them or that you legitimately thought something was true that is not. It is better to acknowledge that you do not know the answer, and offer to provide a supplemental brief if necessary.

In responding to the Justices' questions, do not be overbearing but, conversely, you should not be timid. It is perfectly acceptable to say to a Justice that you believe he or she is incorrect on a point, and explain why. It is also acceptable to challenge the premise of a Justice's question in answering, or to explain why you believe that a hypothetical situation being posed is distinguishable from your case.

Do not avoid or fail to answer a Justice's question. Rather than avoiding a question that hurts your argument, either concede the point, as appropriate, or explain why the point is not dispositive of your case and why your side still should prevail. For example, you might suggest that the question is focused on an irrelevant matter, that it misperceives what is principally in controversy, or that it requires some elaboration. And if you do not think that a question is particularly important or relevant, do not convey that feeling to the Justices; simply respond to the question and then return to the point you were making.

Again, it is important to remember that, from the perspective of the Justices, oral argument is not just about your case. It is about the rule of law that the Court will lay down for future cases. Be prepared to address how your case will affect other cases. Understand and be prepared to discuss the policy implications of your case for the state's jurisprudence, which is to say that you should be ready to discuss the potentially far reaching implications of the rule you are urging the Court to adopt.

Finally, if the Justices stop asking questions before your allotted time has expired, and you have made the points you intended to make, do not hesitate to sit down. End with a strong point or answer. You only diminish the impact of your argument by mechanically reverting to prepared text.

### **Oral Argument in MOAA Cases**

MCR 7.305(H)(1) permits the Court to direct oral arguments on whether to grant leave to appeal or take other action on an application. "Mini Oral Argument on the Application," known as a MOAA (pronounced "mō-ah"), gives the Court an opportunity to explore the issues involved in the case without the full briefing and submission that follow a grant of leave to appeal.



When the Court orders a MOAA, the order will state whether the parties are required or permitted to file supplemental briefs, and will set the briefing deadlines. For most cases, the briefing times are 42 days for the appellant's supplemental brief, 21 days for the appellee's supplemental brief after service of the appellant's supplemental brief, and 14 days for the appellant's reply and any amicus curiae briefs after service of the appellee's supplemental brief. MOAAs are scheduled for oral argument and discussed in conference in the same manner as calendar cases.

The same general rules for oral argument in calendar cases apply to MOAAs, including the two-minute uninterrupted period at the beginning of arguments. But the time for oral argument in a MOAA is limited to 15 minutes per side unless the MOAA order directs otherwise. While it is possible to reserve time for rebuttal, it will likely be a practical impossibility. Given the limited time for argument, it is imperative to be clear and concise when making your arguments and answering questions.

Keep in mind that if the Court has ordered a MOAA, it is likely interested in a specific issue that it considers important, but it is unsure whether that issue warrants a full grant. Oftentimes the issue will be flagged in the order setting argument. If so, your supplemental briefing and oral argument should focus on that issue. It will likely be regarded as controlling by the Court.

In MOAA cases, the Court may be less likely to issue a full opinion following argument that when leave has been granted. The Court has a range of options to address the case, including granting or denying leave to appeal, issuing a peremptory order, or issuing an opinion. Think carefully about what you would like the Court to do, and discuss and defend your position at oral argument. If you believe the case can be resolved with a peremptory order, be prepared to tell the Justices precisely what the order should state or accomplish. If your goal is to convince the Court to grant leave to appeal, tell the Court why denying leave or issuing a peremptory order is insufficient.

## DECISION-MAKING PROCESS

### The Decision

The Justices discuss each case in detail during regular pre-argument conferences. Thus, the Justices are well acquainted with the issues in the case and much of the decision-making process has occurred by the time oral argument takes place.

After oral arguments, the Justices meet in a private conference to make a preliminary determination as to how the case will be decided. A Justice who appears to be among the majority at that time is assigned the task of writing the opinion. Assignments are made at random on a rotating basis.

Draft opinions are circulated to the other Justices, who may sign them without change, request changes, draft and circulate dissenting opinions, or draft and circulate concurring opinions to express different points of view. An

opinion that garners the approvals of a majority of the participating Justices becomes the majority opinion. The case is decided when each Justice has signed the final draft of one of the circulating majority, concurring, or dissenting opinions. All calendar cases argued before the Court are expected to be decided by July 31 of each year. If a calendar case is not decided by term end, the parties may file supplemental briefs and may re-argue the case if requested in writing within 14 days of the new term. MCR 7.313(E).

### **Order or Judgment**

Once finalized, all majority, concurring, or dissenting opinions are filed with the Court Clerk. The Clerk date stamps the opinion, emails the opinion to the parties' attorneys of record, mails copies to the attorneys and any amici curiae, and posts the opinions in several places on the Court's website, including under the Recent Decisions section of the [home page](#), on the Oral Argument page for the specific case, and on the [Opinions of the Michigan Supreme Court page](#).

The Clerk enters an order or judgment on the date the opinion is filed. MCR 7.315(C)(1). In exceptional circumstances, the Court may direct the Clerk to immediately issue the order or judgment when the opinion is filed. MCR 7.315(C)(3). However, the order or judgment generally is issued between 21 and 28 days after its entry, or promptly after a timely motion for rehearing is denied or disposed of on rehearing. MCR 7.315(C)(2).

Unless otherwise noted, an order or judgment pursuant to an opinion is effective when it is issued. MCR 7.315(C)(4). Orders and judgments, other than those pursuant to opinions, are effective on the date of entry. MCR 7.315(D).

The Supreme Court Reporter of Decisions prepares opinions for publication by writing a brief statement of facts and headnotes. Opinions are published in advance sheets as soon as practicable. MCR 7.301(E)(3). Bound volumes are published as soon as practicable after the last opinion included in a volume is issued. MCR 7.301(E)(4).

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

The Supreme Court is housed in the Michigan Hall of Justice at 925 West Ottawa Street in Lansing. The building is located between Ottawa Street on the north, Allegan Street on the south, and Martin Luther King, Jr., Boulevard on the west. Parking is available off Allegan Street, just east of the Hall of Justice. The Clerk's Office is located on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor and is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., except for court holidays. The courtroom is located on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor.

The [Court's website](#) provides access to recent opinions, docket sheets, videos of oral arguments, and other information about the Court. Opinions are posted on the website within a few hours after they are entered.

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# APPENDIX

## Web Address

<http://courts.michigan.gov/supremecourt>

## Street and Mailing Address

Michigan Hall of Justice  
925 W. Ottawa Street  
P.O. Box 30052  
Lansing, MI 48909

## Directory of Offices and Programs

General Questions .....	<a href="mailto:msc-info@courts.mi.gov">msc-info@courts.mi.gov</a> or 517-373-0130
Chief of Staff .....	517-373-0120
Chief of Staff: Larry Royster	
State Court Administrative Office.....	517-373-0128
State Court Administrator: Thomas Boyd (starting March 23, 2020)	
State Court Administrator Emeritus: Milton Mack, Jr.	
Board of Law Examiners.....	517-373-4453
Executive Director: Maribeth Graff	
Child Welfare Services .....	517-373-0130
Director: Kelly Wagner	
Clerk's Office .....	517-373-0120
Clerk: Larry Royster	
Court Crier .....	517-373-5541
Crier: Jeff Mills	
Court Reporter and Recorder Certification Program.....	517-373-9526
Court Security and Emergency Management .....	517-373-2222
Director: John Ort	
Finance .....	517-373-5543
Finance Director: Elizabeth Barber	
Foreign Language Interpreter Certification Program .....	517-373-9526
Administrator: Denice Purves	
Foster Care Review Board Program.....	313-972-3280
Friend of the Court Bureau .....	517-373-5975
Director: Steven Capps	

Human Resources .....	517-373-1147
Chief Administrative Officer: Edward Zobeck	
Judicial Information Systems .....	517-373-8777
Chief Information Officer: Cody Gross	
Learning Center .....	517-373-7171
Michigan Judicial Institute .....	517-373-7171
Director: Dawn McCarty	
Office of Dispute Resolution.....	517-373-4839
Director: Douglas Van Epps	
Public Information Office.....	517-373-0129
Communications Director: John Nevin	
Regional Offices	
Region I .....	313-972-3300
Regional Administrator: Paul Paruk	
Region II .....	517-373-9353
Regional Administrator: Jodi Latuszak	
Region III .....	989-772-5934
Regional Administrator: J. Bruce Kilmer	
Region IV.....	989-732-3311
Regional Administrator: Jerome Kole	
Region V.....	517-373-8679
Regional Administrator: Jill Booth	
Region VI.....	313-972-3300
Regional Administrator: Jennifer Phillips	
Reporter of Decisions .....	517-373-1977
Reporter: Kathryn L. Loomis	
Statistical Research .....	517-373-2222
Director: Laura Hutzal	
Supreme Court Administrative Counsel .....	517-373-0128
Director: Anne Boomer	
Supreme Court General Counsel .....	517-373-0128
Director: Cami Pendell	
Trial Court Services .....	517-373-4835
Director: Jennifer Warner	



**MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT**



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**February 2020**