

**Public Policy Position
ADM File No. 2019-13**

The Appellate Practice Section is a voluntary membership section of the State Bar of Michigan, comprised of 769 members. The Appellate Practice Section is not the State Bar of Michigan and the position expressed herein is that of the Appellate Practice Section only and not the State Bar of Michigan. The State Bar's position in the matter is to support ADM File No. 2019-13.

The Appellate Practice Section has a public policy decision-making body with 24 members. On January 17, 2020, the Section adopted its position after a discussion and vote at a scheduled meeting. 18 members voted in favor of the Section's position on ADM File No. 2019-13, 0 members voted against this position, 0 members abstained, 6 members did not vote due to absence.

Support

Explanation

After a discussion at its regular meeting on January 17, 2020, the Appellate Practice Section Council voted unanimously to support the proposed amendments to MCR 7.118.

Contact Person: Bradley R. Hall

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APPELLATE PRACTICE SECTION

April 1, 2020

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Via email: admcomment@courts.mi.gov

Re: ADM File No. 2019-13: Proposed Amendments of MCR 7.118

Dear Ms. Boomer:

On behalf of the State Bar of Michigan Appellate Practice Section Council, I am writing in support of the proposed amendments of MCR 7.118.

Our Council has voted unanimously to support the proposed amendments, which would ensure the appointment of counsel for indigent prisoners in certain parole appeals. While the Attorney General's Office is currently available to represent the Parole Board's interests in these matters, that is not the same as representing prisoners themselves. The proposed amendments would help ensure a fairer and more accurate appellate process, as well as basic fairness to indigent litigants whose liberty is at stake.

Thank you for considering our views, and please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

s/Bradley R. Hall
Chair