



State Appellate Defender Office

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February 5, 2021

Justices of the Michigan Supreme Court
Hall of Justice
P.O. Box 30052
Lansing, MI 48909

ADM File No. 2020-07: Amendment of MCR 6.502

Dear Justices,

The State Appellate Defender Office (SADO) supports Proposal A, with the amendments offered by the Board of Commissioners of the State Bar of Michigan.

SADO has representatives on the Criminal Law Section Council, Criminal Jurisprudence & Practice Committee, and the Access to Justice Policy Committee, each of which supported Proposal A with amendments that track those supported by the State Bar Board of Commissioners.

Proposal A best addresses the problem of courts sua sponte recategorizing pro per pleadings without notice, while also protecting a defendant's right to pursue relief in federal court.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Zimbelman", written in a cursive style.

Jessica Zimbelman
Managing Attorney