



State Appellate Defender Office

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February 4, 2021

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

ADM File No. 2020-19: Amendment of MCR 2.302

Dear Justices,

The State Appellate Defender Office supports in concept the proposed amendment of MCR 2.302 because we need a better record of audio and video exhibits on appeal. However, we are uncertain if this amendment would apply to criminal cases, and we have additional concerns that the rule may slow down the trial process, which would be especially problematic for people held in custody pre-trial. SADO therefore opposes this particular proposed amendment.

Transcripts of audio and video exhibits are essential when reviewing a case on appeal. SADO would support a more limited rule that requires transcription in cases where an appeal has been taken. This would allow for easier review of trials where interviews, interrogations, 911 calls, etc., are introduced as exhibits and/or published.

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