

2020-Mar-24

## Attorney Discipline Board

### General Order ADB 2020-1 Regarding Operations in Light of COVID-19

Issued by the Attorney Discipline Board  
333 W. Fort St., Ste. 1700, Detroit, MI

In light of the ongoing public health emergency caused by the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, and consistent with

- (1) the Michigan Supreme Court's Administrative Orders 2020-1 – 2020-3 (providing guidance to enable courts to provide continued service while also mitigating the risk of further transmission of the virus, including maximal use of technology to enable and/or require parties to participate remotely, facilitation of electronic filing and service to reduce the need for in-person filing and service, and trial court waiver of strict adherence to adjournment rules or policies and administrative and procedural time requirements); and,
- (2) the Governor's Executive Orders, including Executive Order 2020-21:

The office of the Attorney Discipline Board is closed to the public effective March 24, 2020 and until further notice. The staff is working remotely on cases, is monitoring telephone messages left in general and individual voicemail boxes, is monitoring the general email inboxes (including the "contact us" form on the Board's website), and is continuing to process e-filings pursuant to the Board's E-Filing and E-Service Procedures. Responses to communications with the Board via US Mail or fax may be delayed. Pursuant to Executive Order 2020-21, personnel may be at the ADB office sporadically to process such communications, facilitate remote work, or otherwise conduct basic minimum operations of the Board. Parties who may not be able to adhere strictly to the Board's e-filing and e-service procedures, should contact the Board for direction regarding how to file, serve, or take other action in a case.

All panel hearings scheduled through April 30, 2020 have been administratively adjourned without date, with the exception of certain prehearing motions and conferences which may, if practicable for all parties, be conducted telephonically or by videoconference.

Hearing panels are directed to extend all previously set briefing and other deadlines for a period of three weeks from the date hereof upon request of one of the parties, and to liberally grant such other reasonable requests for extension, adjournment, or accommodation due to circumstances arising from the present health emergency which make it difficult, impossible, or unsafe for a party to adhere to a deadline established by a hearing panel or court rule.

The review hearings scheduled to be held at the Board's April 15, 2020 meeting are adjourned without date, and will be rescheduled at an appropriate time and may take place telephonically or via videoconference.

The Board shall continue to monitor orders adopted by the Michigan Supreme Court and the Governor of Michigan, the policies adopted by other courts and discipline agencies across the nation, and public health pronouncements by all levels of government, and will issue further orders and directives as further developments occur.

ATTORNEY DISCIPLINE BOARD

By:

  
Jonathan E. Lauderbach, Chairperson

DATED: March 24, 2020