
From: Rep. Lori Stone (District 28)
Sent: Tuesday, November 19, 2019 12:13 PM
To: Christine Morrison
Subject: RE: SOCIAL JUSTICE/MICHIGAN JUDICIAL IMPUNITY/REPARATION BILLS

Good afternoon Christine,

Thank you for reaching out to our office. Representative Stone was very moved by your experiences and immediately our office began looking into Judicial Bias and how it is addressed in the State of Michigan. What we found was there are two sources of recourse an individual has against judicial bias: The Appellate Court or the Judicial Tenure Commission.

If the judge acted improperly regarding litigation procedure, wrongful ruling, or wrongful admission of evidence, those would be examples of judicial discretion and would be fit for the Appellate Court.

- If a person submits a complaint/motion to the Appellate Court, it should be based on legal grounds not on codes of conduct

If the judge acted improperly regarding how the judge conducted himself, such as cursing while on the bench, taking a bribe, displaying obvious bias towards a party, and other types of impropriety, those would be examples of judicial misconduct and would be fit for the Judicial Tenure Commission.

- The Judicial Tenure Commission is the oversight for **The Code of Judicial Conduct** that Judges must adhere to
- If a person submits a complaint to the Judicial Tenure Commission, it **CANNOT** include or involve any type of judicial discretion concerns or complaints based on legal grounds/proceedings. If it does, the complaint will be denied, even if there are issues of conduct within the complaint.

With all that said, it is still well documented that either recourse is an uphill, and sometimes impossible, battle for a person when looking for judicial recourse and is in need of reform. Our office will continue to look into different opportunities that would offer effective and responsible reform. If you have any direct issues that you need assistance with please do not hesitate to contact our office, we would be happy to help you however we can. Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Fadel, J.D.
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