



NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD
Detroit & Michigan Chapter

The National Lawyers Guild Detroit & Michigan Chapter supports the changes to MCR 4.201. We believe these changes will substantially increase the rights of tenants in eviction court.

The Court's Administrative Order 2020-17 has helped to decrease the rate of default judgments and increase the rate of legal aid representation in eviction cases. These proposed changes will solidify the progress made by the Court's Administrative Order.

Contrary to what the landlord industry maintains, the proposed changes don't give tenants a free ride, nor do they tip the scale to favor tenants. These changes simply give tenants basic rights to a fair process, legal representation, and knowledge of the proceedings brought against them. We are worried about due process and access to justice; the landlord industry is worried about profit.

These changes are well within the authority of the court to supervise the district courts. They don't go as far as we think Michigan law must, but they are substantially better than the current Court Rules governing the landlord/tenant courts.

Housing is a human right. Evictions destabilize families and communities. The proposed changes to MCR 4.201 will help keep our families and communities housed.

Please approve the changes to Michigan Court Rule 4.201.

Sincerely,

Sara Habbo and Marie Reimers
President and Vice-President
National Lawyers Guild Michigan Chapter