

From: Matthew Steven Quintana
To: [Comments](#)
Subject: MIDC Standards
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To all concerned,

Setting a uniform defense standard in Michigan is long overdue. The defense for poor people in rural counties is an absolute disgrace. I know, because I was shuffled through the system by an appointed attorney. I knew I likely should've had a better outcome, but my appointed defense wasn't interested in doing the extra work to fight the charge. He just wanted to settle with the prosecutor, and there was no way I could afford more my own, more aggressive, defense. To add insult to injury, I was still forced to pay the county for that inadequate, token defense despite the fact that I was living on around \$6k a year in wages.

Funding is obviously the biggest issue. Don't let the counties whine about it and try to water the standards down. People's lives are at stake, and they always manage to find funding for their own priorities when they really want to.

-Matthew Quintana