

**From:** nijad mehanna  
**To:** [Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Re: [SBM Criminal Law Announce] Michigan Indigent Defense Commission Seeking Public Comment on Minimum Standards  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 08, 2017 4:49:47 PM

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why isn't it a priority to increase the fee the defense attorneys receive for their services? do you not think that a fee increase would increase the urge to work harder, and decrease in work load which will ultimately lead to better legal services on behalf of indigent individuals?

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**From:** criminallaw-announce-request@groups.michbar.org <criminallaw-announce-request@groups.michbar.org> on behalf of criminallaw-announce@groups.michbar.org <criminallaw-announce@groups.michbar.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 1:12 PM  
**To:** criminallaw-announce@groups.michbar.org; criminallaw@groups.michbar.org  
**Subject:** [SBM Criminal Law Announce] Michigan Indigent Defense Commission Seeking Public Comment on Minimum Standards

Below is information from LARA regarding the MIDC's first set of standards for indigent defense delivery systems. You can read about the standards at the MIDC website: <http://michiganidc.gov/standards/>

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## Standards | Michigan Indigent Defense Commission

michiganidc.gov

June 22, 2015 - The MIDC announces the release of the first set of proposed minimum standards for the local delivery of indigent criminal defense services.

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Comments on the standards can be submitted until March 9, 2017. Send comments to [comments@michiganidc.gov](mailto:comments@michiganidc.gov) or you can mail them to the office: 200 N. Washington Square, 3rd Floor, Lansing, MI, 48913.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Marla McCowan at 517-388-6702.



MICHIGAN INDIGENT  
DEFENSE COMMISSION



Rick Snyder, Governor

[www.michigan.gov/lara](http://www.michigan.gov/lara)

Shelly Edgerton, Director

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## PRESS RELEASE

### Michigan Indigent Defense Commission Seeking Public Comment on Minimum Standards

February 7, 2017 - The Michigan Indigent Defense Commission (MIDC), now housed in the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA), has submitted proposed standards to LARA and is seeking public comment on the first set of minimum standards for indigent defense delivery systems. The minimum standards involve education and training, the initial client interview, experts and investigators, and counsel at first appearance and other critical stages in front of a judge. Following a public comment period, LARA Director Shelly Edgerton will thoroughly review the information provided and make a decision on whether to approve the standards.

On January 4, 2017, Gov. Rick Snyder signed legislation to ensure the Michigan Indigent Defense Commission meets state constitutional obligations and maintains independence from the judiciary while continuing its work to maintain a fair indigent criminal defense system in Michigan. The legislation moved the commission from the judicial branch to LARA.

This set of minimum standards was conditionally approved by the Michigan Supreme Court on June 1, 2016.

- Education and Training of Defense Counsel
- Initial Interview
- Investigation and Experts
- Counsel at First Appearance and Other Critical Stages

Details of each standard can be found on [here](#).

Pursuant to MCL 780.985 as amended, opposition to a proposed minimum standard should be submitted before March 9, 2017 by email to [comments@michiganidc.gov](mailto:comments@michiganidc.gov). All comments will be posted on the MIDC website at: [www.michiganidc.gov](http://www.michiganidc.gov).

Every indigent defense delivery system in Michigan is required to submit a plan for compliance with the standards together with a cost analysis to the MIDC. If the standards are approved, these submissions must be made to the MIDC within 180 days from the date of approval.

The Michigan Indigent Defense Commission was established to create and enforce uniform public defense standards throughout the state. Its members are appointed by the Governor with recommendation of the Legislature, Supreme Court, the State Bar, and representing interests from the criminal justice system and the general public.