

STATE OF MICHIGAN

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF KENT

IN RE: MOTIONS PURSUANT TO MCR 2.002      LOCAL ADMINISTRATIVE  
FOR WAIVER OR SUSPENSION OF FEES      ORDER: 2005-02  
AND COSTS FOR INDIGENT PERSONS

At a session of said Court, held in the Kent County Courthouse  
in the City of Grand Rapids, in said County on  
March 29, 2005.

Present: HONORABLE PAUL J. SULLIVAN  
Chief Circuit Judge

WHEREAS, to minimize delays in the processing of pleadings filed by indigent persons:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that:

The Clerk of this Court, as well as her deputies, may affix the signature stamp of the Chief Judge with the full effect of his signature to, thereby granting, orders waiving or suspending fees filed by or on behalf of natural persons who establish their indigency by showing that they are (a) receiving public assistance defined as needs-based benefits in the form of Aid for Dependent Children (ADC), Supplemental Security Income (SSI), State Family Assistance, State Disability Assistance, and/or food stamps; (b) are represented by Legal Aid of Western Michigan or the Michigan Migrant Legal Assistance Project; or (c) are represented by an attorney handling that person's case as part of the Pro Bono Project sponsored by the Grand Rapids Bar Association.

All other requests for the waiver of fees in new cases must be submitted to the Presiding Judge of the Civil/Criminal Division or the Presiding Judge of the Family Division, based on the case type. Requests for waiver of fees in existing cases must be submitted to the Judge assigned to the case. The following public benefits, because they are not needs-based, are not public assistance: Social Security Retirement Benefits, Social Security Disability Benefits, Social Security Survivor's Benefits, Social Security Dependent's Benefits, Unemployment Compensation, Veteran's Benefits, Worker's Compensation, and private disability and retirement benefits. Individuals receiving such benefits may be indigent, but their indigency will have to be determined on a case by case basis. An incarcerated individual filing a civil action or an appeal in a civil action will be evaluated for indigency status pursuant to MCLA 600.2963.

This Administrative Order rescinds the Court's Administrative Order 2004-06.

3.31.05  
Date

  
Paul J. Sullivan  
Chief Circuit Judge