

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF ATTORNEY GENERAL



P.O. Box 30212
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909

DANA NESSEL
ATTORNEY GENERAL

August 13, 2025

Senator Winnie Brinks
Senate Majority Leader
S-102 Capitol Building
Lansing, MI 48933
SenWBrinks@senate.michigan.gov

Representative Matt Hall
Speaker of the House
H-164 Capitol Building
Lansing, MI 48933
MattHall@house.mi.gov

Representative Ann Bollin, Chair
House Appropriations Committee
898 House Office Building
Lansing, MI 48933
AnnBollin@house.mi.gov

Senator Sarah Anthony, Chair
Senate Appropriations Committee
S-324 Capitol Building
Lansing, MI 48933
SenSAnthony@senate.michigan.gov

Kathryn Summers, Director
Senate Fiscal Agency
Victor Office Center
201 N Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48933
ksummers@senate.michigan.gov

Jen Flood
State Budget Director
George W. Romney Building
111 South Capitol Avenue
Lansing, MI 48933
FloodJ3@michigan.gov

Mary Ann Cleary, Director
House Fiscal Agency
House Office Building
124 N. Capitol Ave
Lansing, MI 48933
MCleary@house.mi.gov

This Letter Sent VIA Email Only

Re: *Angela Harness v State of Michigan, et al*
Court of Claims Notice of Intent No. 24-200183-0

Dear Senators, Representatives, and Directors:

MCL 18.1396 directs the Attorney General to notify you in the event of a settlement or consent judgment in excess of \$200,000.00. Accordingly, I am notifying you that the Michigan Department of State (MDOS) settled the above-referenced matter for \$775,000.00.

August 13, 2025

This matter involved a Department Bureau Director, who filed a notice of intent to sue with the Court of Claims alleging disparate treatment, retaliation, and hostile work environment based on her race, gender, and having engaged in protected activity in violation of the Elliott Larsen Civil Rights Act. While MDOS disputed these claims, to avoid protracted litigation and the risks and costs such litigation brings, the parties negotiated a separation agreement.

Had this matter proceeded to a trial damages and attorney fees considerably in excess of the settlement amount were possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ashley Steffen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ashley Steffen
Director, Office of Legislative Affairs
Michigan Department of Attorney General

/sg