

STATE OF MICHIGAN
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November 14, 2025

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This Letter Sent VIA Email Only

Re: *Michelle Fisher, et al v Michigan Department of Corrections, et al*
USDC-Western District Case No. 1:20-cv-00302

Dear Senators, Representatives, and Directors:

MCL 18.1396 directs that the Attorney General notify you in the event of a settlement or consent judgment in excess of \$200,000. Accordingly, I am notifying you that the Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC) has settled this case for \$1,500,000.00.

Michelle Fisher, Tracy Gilbert, Shanna Jasmin, and Michelle Svejda filed a lawsuit that ended up in the Western District of Michigan. Each plaintiff asserted claims that Corrections Officer Michael Parenteau sexually harassed them during and after work hours during 2017 and 2018 at the Alger Correctional Facility creating a hostile work environment, and that MDOC supervisors were aware or should have been aware of the conduct. The MDOC did not indemnify or defend Mr. Parenteau, and this settlement is solely on behalf of other MDOC officials sued in this action.

Due to the risk at trial, given the allegations and the number of plaintiffs, MDOC agreed to a negotiated settlement of \$1,500,000.00. Had this matter proceeded to trial, damages and attorney fees 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

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