

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF ATTORNEY GENERAL



P.O. Box 30758
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909

DANA NESSEL
ATTORNEY GENERAL

September 9, 2019

Hon. Eric R. Janes
Chief Judge
300 N. Main St., Ste 67-3
Mount Pleasant, MI 48858-2378

*Sent via electronic mail
and hard copy*

Mr. Joseph T. Barberi
2305 Hawthorn Dr., Ste C
Mount Pleasant, MI 48858-1202

Re: *People v Ian Elliott (Case No. 19-165-FY)*

Dear Judge Janes and Mr. Barberi:

I write to advise you that on the afternoon of Thursday, September 5th, 2019, I was notified that now former Assistant Attorney General Brian Kolodziej, the prosecutor in the above-captioned matter, had allegedly engaged in an intimate relationship with one of the victims in the case while the case was still on-going. Upon receiving notification of the allegation, former AAG Kolodziej was immediately placed on administrative leave pending an investigation.

In the course of meeting with Department staff regarding these allegations, Mr. Kolodziej admitted that he had an intimate relationship with one of the victims in the case. He stated that the relationship began in April of 2019 and continued until the end of August of this year. On Friday, September 6th, Mr. Kolodziej resigned from his employment with the Department.

We have been in contact with the Michigan State Police regarding potential criminal violations that may exist related to this conduct and have pledged to fully cooperate with the MSP's investigation. We have also disclosed the matter to the Prosecuting Attorneys Coordinating Council (PACC) so that – if the MSP requires prosecutorial services – it can promptly appoint another prosecutorial agency to assist.

In addition, our Department has taken several immediate actions as a result of Mr. Kolodziej's admission. First, his conduct was reported to the Attorney Grievance Commission for review. Next, we began a review of all his cases to determine what actions, if any, are necessary as a result of his disclosure. As part of that process, we decided that this notification – made to both the Court and to defense counsel – should be made. We also notified the victims in the case of both Mr. Kolodziej's conduct and of our obligation to inform the court and defense counsel of the same.

The Attorney General deeply regrets the circumstances that we, the court, counsel, and, above all, the victims, now find ourselves in as a result of Mr. Kolodziej's conduct. I can assure you that we are committed to doing all things necessary to work through these issues as quickly and transparently as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christina M. Grossi', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Christina M. Grossi
Chief of Operations