



MAC MATTERS

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Quarterly Newsletter / January 6

Q1/26



From the desk of the Director

Happy New Year! We can look back on 2025 as a very successful year, despite it still being a time of transition. I am enthusiastic about welcoming our new Deputy Director, and together we will continue to implement changes and strengthen the resources available to our roster attorneys.

One significant hurdle in the past year was the untimely submission of invoices by attorneys. This created inaccuracies in budget projections for MIDC grant funding for the new fiscal year across some of our funding units. I must emphasize the critical importance of timely invoicing for two main reasons: 1) it ensures attorneys receive prompt compensation for their work, and 2) it provides much more accurate quarterly reporting for projected spending. As we move into 2026, I anticipate a major improvement in this area. We will continue to offer the virtual Help Desk to assist anyone experiencing challenges with the invoicing process.

We are looking forward to an even more rewarding year in 2026!

Rachel L. McRipley

Fighting for equal and fair representation every step of the way.

Welcome to the Team!



In December, we welcomed our new Deputy Director, Alicia Martin. She graduated from Central Michigan University with a Bachelor's degree in Journalism in 1997 and from Cooley Law School in Lansing, MI in January of 2005. Since 2008, she has been a self-employed solo practitioner in the areas of

Criminal Defense, Family Law and Landlord/Tenant as well as Legal Document Drafting and Review. While in private practice, Atty. Martin has specialized in handling everything from traffic misdemeanors to capital felony charges for both indigent and retained clients; representing retained clients in Landlord/Tenant disputes, Divorce, Custody, Parenting Time and Child Support actions.

Alicia brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in Criminal Defense practice, as well as her extensive organizational skills to benefit the RMACO. She is also a recent newlywed and the mother of one adult daughter. In her spare time, she enjoys singing, cooking, reading, traveling, attending concerts and plays, and spending time with family.

For more information about Alicia, please see the about section of our website.





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Attorney Spotlight

Attorney Miles Gerou secured a dismissal for his client due to a Brady/Youngblood violation, successfully contesting the prosecution's claim that they served discovery. This was compounded by the involved officer's history of a suspicious pretextual stop without preserved video and a separation affidavit citing resignation under a Use of Force investigation. The Judge dismissed the case, ruling that the Police Department's unlawful video retention policy, which destroyed evidence after one year—contrary to MCL 780.316(2)'s mandate for retention until case completion—met the Youngblood bad faith standard.

If you have had a successful result, please share them with our office via email for publication.

RMACO Anniversary Celebration

Celebrating 5 years

In October of 2026, the Regional Managed Assigned Counsel Office turns 5! We are looking forward to celebrating this with all of you! Be on the lookout for more information on the details of this upcoming celebration! We hope you can join us!

16th DC: Livonia

Beginning in January, the 16th DC has shifted to using a house counsel system. As such, attorneys will no longer receive emails for assignments on a daily basis.

If you are interested in assignments in other courts, please send an email to regionalmac@dearborn.gov. Attorneys will be assigned upon availability.



CLE's for 2026

A quick reminder to start early on obtaining your 2026 CLE credits.

ZLS Virtual Help Desk Schedule

Tuesdays – 10am to 12pm

Fridays – 2pm to 4pm

PLEASE NOTE: The help desk will not be available the following dates in observance of holidays:

–Friday, March 20