



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
**COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**  
REP. SARAH L. LIGHTNER  
CHAIR

**COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, February 18, 2021                      10:30 AM                      Room 308, House Office Building

The House Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Judiciary was called to order by the Chair, Representative Lightner.

The Chair requested attendance be called:

Present: Reps. Lightner, Yaroch, Green, Borton, C.A. Johnson, T. Carter, and Brabec.

Absent: None.

Excused: None.

Representative Yaroch moved to adopt the meeting minutes from February 4, 2021. There being no objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

Jonathan Sacks, Director, State Appellate Defender Office, appeared before the subcommittee to give an overview of the Michigan State Appellate Defender Office and the Michigan Appellate Assigned Counsel System. He discussed FY 2021-22 budget priorities, the Public Defender Division, overturning wrongful convictions, human and financial costs of sentencing errors, and the Juvenile Lifer Unit.

Marilena David-Martin, Deputy Director, State Appellate Defender Office, appeared before the subcommittee to discuss the impact of COVID-19 on SADO's client caseload, SADO's continued advocacy during the pandemic, the Criminal Defense Resource Center, and Project Reentry. Questions and answers followed.

There being no further business before the subcommittee, Rep. Sarah Lightner adjourned the meeting at 11:30 AM.

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Representative Sarah Lightner, Chair

Robin Risko, Committee Clerk  
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