

May 2, 2007

ADM File Nos. 2002-34, 2002-44

Third Amended Administrative Order No. 2007-2

Expedited Summary Disposition
Docket in the Court of Appeals

Pursuant to Administrative Order No. 2004-5, this Court adopted an expedited summary disposition docket in the Court of Appeals to take effect on January 1, 2005, and to expire on December 31, 2006. On December 21, 2005, Amended Administrative Order No. 2004-5 was adopted to take effect January 1, 2006, and to expire December 31, 2007. At the request of Chief Judge William C. Whitbeck, we now order that the expedited summary disposition docket be suspended indefinitely effective May 7, 2007.

The Court of Appeals has indicated that as of May 7, 2007, all cases currently on the expedited summary disposition track will no longer be considered on an expedited basis and will proceed on the standard track. If any party believes this shift would create a hardship or a significant inequity, a party may file a motion for appropriate relief in conformity with MCR 7.211. Parties to cases that were filed under the expedited summary disposition docket need not file a docketing statement, as is required for cases that were not filed under the expedited summary disposition docket. If transcripts in an expedited summary disposition case have been ordered and are completed by the court reporter within the time limits established in Administrative Order No. 2004-5, the court reporter is entitled to charge the premium rate per page.

Staff Comment: The expedited summary disposition track was created at the request of the Court of Appeals to deal more quickly with cases that were appealed following a grant or denial of summary disposition by the trial court. It was intended to assess the question whether parties and the court could brief, argue, and dispose of cases within six months of filing. While parties generally have been able to meet the stricter briefing requirements under the program, the court's serious budget constraints have prevented it from meeting the expedited timelines, which the court believes places practitioners at a disadvantage. Rather than continue to be unable to comply with the time requirements of the expedited summary disposition track, the Court believes it is more advisable to suspend the operation of the expedited track indefinitely.

The staff comment is not an authoritative construction by the Court.