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Date: 03/01/2023

ADM File Number: 2022-03

Comment:

I support the proposed amendment to MCR 1.109.

This amendment is compatible with the increased provision of personal pronouns in societal communications.

Recognition and use of appropriate pronouns for parties and attorney would be a sign of respect. Our courts should respect all individuals with whom they interact.

Misgendering someone, intentionally or unintentionally, can cause emotional distress, psychological harm and aggravate physical disorders, such as hypertension. It is reasonable to have courts operate in a manner that prevents undue harm to those with interacting with the courts.

Finally, the ignorance of some about the existence of gender variation is not a reasonable reason for the court to show disrespect to individuals who wish to have their gender accurately recognized by the court.