

Name: Uwe Dauss

Date: 09/30/2025

ADM File Number: 2021-29

Comment:

This proposed amendment to MCR 6.201 is both unnecessary and a bad idea: If adopted, this amendment would work to secrete from defendants and their counsel information that is readily available/usable to law enforcement. It would create disparity in information already available to law enforcement and often used or even instrumental in their investigation and case-building. There is no need for the ROUTINE redaction of dates of birth, driver's license numbers, or even social security or passport numbers; where financial account numbers are included in police reports (e.g., because of the nature of the investigation), those numbers are essential for the defense as well. If in any particular case or circumstances the prosecution sees a need to redact such information from any particular report, the court rule as it is does allow for protective orders, even on stipulation of the parties (which in practice may not require more than a quick conversation between competent and attentive counsel). These tools are sufficient to address the issue and potential need for redaction in particular cases or circumstances. Adoption of this amendment in turn would unduly burden the defense with having to seek out most basic information of people involved in criminal cases. The Court should reject this proposed amendment and leave MCR 6.201 as it is.