

Frances Yturri
General Counsel
(313) 224-0995
Frances.Yturri@3rdcc.org



Honorable Patricia P. Fresard
Chief Judge

Honorable Leslie Kim Smith
Chief Judge Pro Tem

THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
OF MICHIGAN

2 Woodward Avenue, Suite 742
Detroit, MI 48226

Website: www.3rdcc.org

Email: info@3rdcc.org

November 19, 2025

Gregory Jones
498 Bird Avenue
Birmingham, MI 48009

Re: ADA Grievance/Appeal

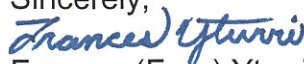
Dear Mr. Jones,

At Chief Judge Patricia Fresard's request, I have undertaken a thorough review of your Appeal/Grievance of the ADA Coordinator's denial of your request for accommodation. Specifically, you are appealing the November 4, 2025, denial of your request (made the same date) to appear remotely for an evidentiary hearing and motion hearing scheduled for December 1, 2025, before Judge Yvonna Abraham in Case No. 17-163353-DP. In his November 4, 2025, correspondence, the Court's ADA Coordinator, Mr. Frank Hardester, advised that remote attendance at hearings is at the discretion of the assigned judge. Therefore, the Court cannot grant remote attendance at all hearings, as this would fundamentally alter the nature of court procedures, which is not supported under the ADA.

The Chief Judge previously responded to an appeal/grievance in which you raised identical issues. A copy of the Chief Judge's response, dated November 21, 2024, is enclosed for your reference. In her response, the Chief Judge adopted the recommendation of the ADA Coordinator.

After careful review, I have concluded that the ADA Coordinator correctly denied your request. Pursuant to the ADA, courts must provide equal access to all Michigan citizens with disabilities in an integrated setting, and must make reasonable accommodations when necessary, unless doing so constitutes an undue administrative or financial burden, or fundamentally alters the nature of the court's programs, services, and activities. 28 CFR § 35.150(a)(3). Under MCR 2.407 and MCR 2.408, remote attendance at hearings is at the discretion of the assigned judge. Granting your request for remote attendance would prevent the assigned judge from exercising discretion, thereby violating the Michigan Court Rules and fundamentally altering the nature of court procedures, which is not supported under the ADA.

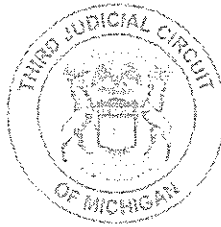
For the reasons above, your grievance lacks merit and the ADA Coordinator's determination is adopted.

Sincerely,

Frances (Fran) Yturri

enclosure
cc: Frank Hardester
SCAO Region 1

Honorable Patricia Perez Fresard
Chief Judge
(313) 224-5430
Patricia.Fresard@3rdcc.org

Honorable Leslie Kim Smith
Chief Judge Pro Tem



THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
OF MICHIGAN

2 Woodward Avenue, Courtroom 701
Detroit, MI 48226

Website: www.3rdcc.org

Email: info@3rdcc.org

November 21, 2024

Gregory Jones
Via email: gregoryjones70@gmail.com

RE: Formal Complaint for Denial of ADA Accommodation – Case Number 2017-163353-DP

Mr. Jones:

The Court is in receipt of your Formal Complaint for Denial of ADA Accommodation, which was initially emailed to the Court's ADA Coordinator on November 18, 2024, with a follow-up email sent on November 19, 2024, at 8:39 a.m. Your complaint references multiple requests for accommodations with respect to Case No. 17-163353-DP, which is currently pending before Hon. Yvonna Abraham and is scheduled for hearing on November 26, 2024.

The Court's ADA Coordinator, Mr. Frank Hardester, formally responded to your ADA Accommodation requests by email on November 19, 2024, at 5:21 p.m. (Please see attached.) Even though your Complaint for Denial of ADA Accommodation was filed prior to issuance of the ADA Coordinator's formal response, the Court is aware that your matter is time-sensitive, and will therefore treat your complaint as a request for review of the ADA Coordinator's decision.

Upon review of your accommodation requests and the ADA Coordinator's response, the Chief Judge will adopt the determination of the ADA Coordinator. The complaint is without merit; the responses from the ADA Coordinator were within reason and consistent with ADA guidelines. No further action will be taken. If you have further questions, you may contact ADA-Accommodation-Request@3rdcc.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patricia Perez Fresard", is written over the typed name and title.

Hon. Patricia Perez Fresard
Chief Judge

cc: Frank Hardester, ADA Coordinator
Hon. Yvonna Abraham

Honorable Patricia P. Fresard
Chief Judge
(313) 224-5430

E. Frank Hardester
Executive Court Administrator
(313) 224-5261



Honorable Leslie Kim Smith
Chief Judge Pro Tem
(313) 224-2427

**THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
OF MICHIGAN**

2 Woodward Avenue, Suite 711
Detroit, MI 48226

Website: www.3rdcc.org

Email: info@3rdcc.org

November 19, 2024

Gregory Jones
Via email: gregoryjones70@gmail.com

RE: Request for Reasonable Accommodations under ADA - Case Number 2017-163353-DP

Dear Mr. Jones:

I am writing to respond to your request for accommodations (attached) that we received as follows:

- October 12, 2024 (via email)
- October 31, 2024 (via email)
- November 15, 2024 (via voicemail)

On November 12, 2024, I contacted you via phone and discussed your request in more detail since we are not able to accommodate the request in full. We again discussed your request on November 18, 2024.

In response to your requests, please see below:

1. Statement / Request:

October 12, 2024 written request: Remote Court hearings for all future hearings

Response:

Your request is granted in part.

- Remote attendance at hearings is at the discretion of the assigned judge. The Court cannot grant remote attendance at all hearings as this will fundamentally alter court procedures which is not supported under ADA. As discussed on the phone call on November 12, 2024, requests for remote attendance can be made to the assigned judge as needed. You are expected to appear in-person at your next hearing on November 26, 2024 pursuant to the Court.

2. Statement / Request:

October 12, 2024 written request: Extended Deadlines

Response:

Your request is granted in part.

- Requests to extend deadlines must be made by the motion with the Court. Timelines established by law are expected to be followed. The Court cannot extend deadlines beyond what is allowed by law as this will fundamentally alter court procedures which is not supported under ADA. Assistance can be sought from an attorney or the Self-Help Center within the Court. You may also go to www.MichiganLegalHelp.org for more assistance.

3. Statement / Request:

October 12, 2024 written request: Assistance in Filing Documents

Response:

Your request is granted in part.

- The Court cannot provide legal advice, doing so is not permitted by law and would fundamentally alter court procedures which is not supported under ADA. However, assistance can be sought from an attorney or the Self-Help Center within the Court. You may also go to www.MichiganLegalHelp.org for more assistance.

4. Statement / Request:

October 31, 2024 written request: Remote Court hearings from 10-31-2024 forward

Response:

Same as #1 above.

5. Statement / Request:

October 31, 2024 written request: Procedural guidance for filing motions and resources to help prepare for court

Response:

Your request is granted in part.

- The Court cannot provide legal advice, doing so not permitted by law and would fundamentally alter court procedures which is not supported under ADA. However, procedural assistance can be sought from the County Clerk's office, an attorney, or these other resources:

<u>William Booth Legal Aid Clinic:</u> 313-361-6340 Every Thursday of the month EXCEPT the 1 st Thursday at 12:00 p.m. Coleman A. Young Municipal Center 2 Woodward Avenue, Suite 784 Detroit, MI 48226	<u>Michigan Legal Self-Help Center</u> Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (must be in line by 1:30 p.m.) Coleman A. Young Municipal Center 2 Woodward Avenue, Suite 1911, Detroit, MI 48226	<u>Lakeshore Legal Aid</u> www.lakeshorelegalaids.org 888-783-8190	<u>Detroit Bar Association</u> <u>Legal Services Clinic</u> www.detroitlawyer.org
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6. Statement / Request:

October 31, 2024 written request: Assistance with understanding legal terminology

Response:

Your request is granted in part.

- The Court cannot provide legal advice, doing so not permitted by law and would fundamentally alter court procedures which is not supported under ADA. However, if you need terminology clarified, feel free to inquire of the Court as needed. Other assistance is available using the resources noted in #5 above.

7. Statement / Request:

November 15, 2024 voicemail request: Accommodation for a service dog to attend in-person hearings

Response:

Your request is granted.

- After discussing this request with you on the phone on November 18, 2024, it was noted the service dog is required for your disability. Additionally, the service dog is specifically trained for your disability. If the service animal becomes a disruption as defined by ADA guidelines, the Court will insist upon removal of the animal from the premises.

8. Statement / Request:

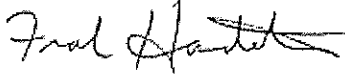
November 15, 2024 voicemail request: File Complaint

Response:

You may certainly file a complaint on any matter as you see fit. If you are filing a complaint under ADA, please articulate your reasoning for each item listed.

Thank you for submitting your request to the Court and for our discussions related to this matter. If you have further questions, feel free to contact me at ADA-Accommodation-Request@3rdcc.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank Hardester", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Frank Hardester
Executive Court Administrator
ADA Coordinator

**REQUEST FOR REASONABLE
ACCOMMODATIONS AND RESPONSE**

Court name and address

Third Judicial Court Of Michigan
2 Woodward Avenue, Suite 711 Detroit, MI 48226

Telephone number of ADA coordinator: 313-224-5261

You should request accommodations as far as possible in advance of your court appearance or other court activity. To request accommodations, complete and return this form to the court at the above address. If you need help completing this form, contact the ADA coordinator at the above telephone number. To properly evaluate your request, the court may ask you for more information.

The ADA coordinator will respond to your request before the court appearance or other court activity. If your request is denied, you may request a review in accordance with the court's local administrative order. At your request, the court will provide you a copy of the local administrative order.

Today's date

10/12/2024

APPLICANT INFORMATION (to be kept confidential)

Applicant is ☐ Witness ☐ Juror ☐ Attorney ☒ Party ☐ Other (specify)			
Case name and number (if applicable) 17-163353-DP			
Name Gregory Jones		E-mail address gregoryjones70@gmail.com	
Address 26679 Spicer St.			
City Madison Heights	State MI	Zip 48071	Telephone no. 313-575-8847

1. What type of proceeding or court service, activity, or program are you attending (i.e., hearing, jury duty, mediation meeting, trial)?
hearings
2. On what dates do you need accommodations?
all future
3. For what impairment do you need accommodations (for a sign language interpreter, specify ASL, CDI, or CART)?
Heart / Lung Disease. Compromised Immune System. 3 Heart Attacks in the last year
4. What type of accommodations do you need?
Remote Court Hearings. Extended Deadlines. Assistance in Filing Documents

RESPONSE TO REQUEST☒ The request is **GRANTED**

- ☐ for the above matter or appearance, ☐ from _____ to _____, ☐ for an indefinite period,
☐ in whole as follows: (specify the accommodations)

☒ in part. As consented to by the applicant, alternative accommodations are as follows: (specify the accommodations)

Please see the attached.

☐ The request is **DENIED** because

- ☐ the applicant is not a qualified individual with a disability under the ADA.
☐ the request creates an undue financial or administrative burden on the court (as defined by the ADA).
☐ the request fundamentally alters the nature of the service, program, or activity (as defined by the ADA).

The basis for this denial is: (Specify on separate sheet if needed. Include alternative accommodations offered but rejected by the applicant.)

The applicant was notified of the court's response ☒ by phone ☐ by mail ☒ by e-mail ☐ in person on

11/18/2024

by Frank Hardester

Date

Name

**REQUEST FOR REASONABLE
ACCOMMODATIONS AND RESPONSE**

Court name and address

Third Judicial Circuit Court Of Michigan
Coleman A Young Municipal Center, 2 Woodward Avenue

Telephone number of ADA coordinator: 313-224-5261

You should request accommodations as far as possible in advance of your court appearance or other court activity. To request accommodations, complete and return this form to the court at the above address. If you need help completing this form, contact the ADA coordinator at the above telephone number. To properly evaluate your request, the court may ask you for more information.

The ADA coordinator will respond to your request before the court appearance or other court activity. If your request is denied, you may request a review in accordance with the court's local administrative order. At your request, the court will provide you a copy of the local administrative order.

Today's date

10/31/2024

APPLICANT INFORMATION (to be kept confidential)

Applicant is				☐ Witness	☐ Juror	☐ Attorney	☒ Party	☐ Other (specify)
Case name and number (if applicable) Hampton v Jones								
Name Gregory Jones						E-mail address gregoryjones70@gmail.com		
Address 26679 Spicer St.								
City Madison Heights				State MI		Zip 48071		Telephone no. 313 575 8847

1. What type of proceeding or court service, activity, or program are you attending (i.e., hearing, jury duty, mediation meeting, trial)?
hearings and motions
2. On what dates do you need accommodations?
10/31/2024 forward
3. For what impairment do you need accommodations (for a sign language interpreter, specify ASL, CDI, or CART)?
Heart and Lung Disease. Advanced Tuberculosis History. Severe Anxiety.
4. What type of accommodations do you need?

I need assistance with understanding legal terminology, procedural guidance for filing motions, and resources to help me prepare for court appearances Remote Hearings

RESPONSE TO REQUEST☒ The request is **GRANTED**

- ☐ for the above matter or appearance, ☐ from _____ to _____, ☐ for an indefinite period,
☐ in whole as follows: (specify the accommodations)

☒ in part. As consented to by the applicant, alternative accommodations are as follows: (specify the accommodations)

Please see the attached.

☐ The request is **DENIED** because

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☐ the request fundamentally alters the nature of the service, program, or activity (as defined by the ADA).

The basis for this denial is: (Specify on separate sheet if needed. Include alternative accommodations offered but rejected by the applicant.)

The applicant was notified of the court's response ☐ by phone ☐ by mail ☐ by e-mail ☐ in person on

11/18/2024

by Frank Hardester

Date

Name