



StateBarWatch

Keeping An Eye On The State Bar of Michigan Since 2003

August 5, 2004

Honorable Norene S. Redmond, Chief Judge
38th District Court
16101 Nine Mile Rd.
Eastpointe, MI 48021

Re: Use of Stun Gun By Police

Dear Chief Judge Redmond:

We are writing concerning the unfortunate incident yesterday in your courtroom, wherein a criminal suspect was subjected to being shot with a stun gun. Upon information and belief, the suspect refused to answer the Court's questions and was later held in contempt. When police officers attempted to take the man back to his cell, he was reportedly shot with high-voltage electricity, even though he did not struggle with the officers.

StateBarWatch is very concerned about these events, which were widely reported on television. As an elected Michigan judicial officer and licensed attorney, we are confident that you are committed to promoting the public's confidence in your fair judicial temperament and impartiality.

The manner in which the media reported the incident suggested that the criminal suspect could have been suffering from psychological problems. The public was also led to believe high voltage electricity is an appropriate method of dealing with uncooperative individuals in your courtroom. We are respectfully asking that you grant our request for an interview to explore these issues. We look forward to meeting with you.

Sincerely,

Frank J. Lawrence, Jr.
Founder

Thomas J. Lawrence
Director, Investigations