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CRC Weighs In On Indigent Defense

At the regular meeting of the Michigan Civil Rights Commission on Monday the panel passed a resolution on the right to adequate indigent defense counsel.

"The Commission was convinced that the costs of not providing effective counsel are indeed a civil rights concern," said Commission Chair Matthew WESAW. "To an individual, the human impact, the human cost of ineffective counsel can be devastating. The state, however, pays the costs to incarcerate thousands of individuals who may have been determined innocent, or received a lesser sentence had the system worked the way it should."