Address to the Michigan Supreme Court on May 16, 2007 By Theodore A. Golden, M.D.

Honorable Justices of the Michigan Supreme Court Distinguished Visitors Citizens of Michigan

My name is Dr. Theodore Golden. I am a Dermatologist practicing in Sterling Hts., Michigan.

Today, we are seeing democracy at work in changing the rules we live by in order to better our lives. Rule 1.10 of the Michigan Rules of Professional Conduct deals with conflicts of interest. I am here to tell the citizens of Michigan that they must get active in changing Michigan's master rules in order for the rules stipulated by the Michigan Supreme Court in the Michigan Rules of Professional Conduct to work.

The Michigan Constitution has been of great disservice to the citizens of Michigan by empowering the Michigan Supreme Court to protect the legal system, and must be changed. The lack of enforcement of well established ethical standards for attorneys as specified in the Michigan Rules of Professional Conduct is one of the prime reasons the legal system in Michigan is not respected. A scandalous situation has existed in Michigan for many years because the Michigan Supreme Court has failed to adequately police and protect the integrity of our legal system. We have the fox guarding the hen house. Attorneys cannot police attorneys. It does not work due to conflicts of interest. The Michigan Constitution, the master rules, must be changed to eliminate the foremost conflict of interest in the state.

I have proposed the *Golden Legal Oversight Amendment*. My constitutional amendment will establish a board elected by the citizens of Michigan to write the rules concerning the conduct of attorneys and judges, and have the authority to police the legal system. Any citizen may run for the board. The citizens of Michigan must have direct control of these vital legal functions, and not the Michigan Supreme Court. I refer you to my web site, www.tagolden.com or www.michiganjustice.com for details.

I hope the members of this court, the governor, the legislative branches of government, and the legal profession will endorse the *Golden Legal Oversight Amendment*, and expedite its passage. The citizens of Michigan deserve excellence, justice, and integrity of their legal system.

Thank you.