



MACDL
Massachusetts Association of
Criminal Defense Lawyers

February 28, 2019

Barbara F. Berenson, Esq.
Supreme Judicial Court
John Adams Courthouse
One Pemberton Square
Boston, MA 02108

RE: Proposed changes to Mass. R. Crim. P. 12 regarding conditional guilty pleas

Dear Attorney Berenson,

I am writing to express the position of the Massachusetts Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (MACDL) on the proposed changes to Mass. R. Crim. P. 12 regarding conditional guilty pleas. MACDL fully supports the comments provided to you by the Committee for Public Counsel Services on the proposed change.

Specifically, we agree that the rule should permit courts to accept conditional pleas over the objection of the prosecution under the limited circumstances, as suggested by seven members of the Standing Advisory Committee in Appendix A to the submission to the Rules Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide you with our comment.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Derege Demissie

Derege Demissie
President