

Order

Michigan Supreme Court
Lansing, Michigan

March 25, 2026

Megan K. Cavanagh,
Chief Justice

ADM File No. 2023-23

Brian K. Zahra
Richard H. Bernstein
Elizabeth M. Welch
Kyra H. Bolden
Kimberly A. Thomas
Noah P. Hood,
Justices

Amendment of Rule
3.942 of the Michigan
Court Rules

On order of the Court, notice of the proposed changes and an opportunity for comment in writing and at a public hearing having been provided, and consideration having been given to the comments received, the following amendment of Rule 3.942 of the Michigan Court Rules is adopted, effective May 1, 2026.

[Additions to the text are indicated in underlining and
deleted text is shown by strikeover.]

Rule 3.942 Trial

(A)-(C) [Unchanged.]

(D) Bench Trial. In an action tried without a jury, the juvenile may make a motion pursuant to MCR 6.419(D) at the close of the prosecutor's case-in-chief.

(~~E~~) Verdict. In a delinquency proceeding, the verdict must be guilty or not guilty of either the offense charged or a lesser included offense. At a trial without a jury, the court must state on the record or in a written opinion its findings of fact and conclusions of law.

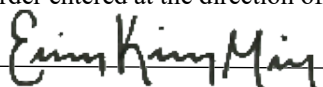
Staff Comment (ADM File No. 2023-23): The amendment of MCR 3.942 requires the court, in delinquency proceeding bench trials, to make findings of fact and conclusions of law and allow for the equivalent of a directed verdict.

The staff comment is not an authoritative construction by the Court. In addition, adoption of a new rule or amendment in no way reflects a substantive determination by this Court.



I, Elizabeth Kingston-Miller, Clerk of the Michigan Supreme Court, certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the order entered at the direction of the Court.

March 25, 2026


Clerk