

Order

Michigan Supreme Court
Lansing, Michigan

May 20, 2026

Megan K. Cavanagh,
Chief Justice

ADM File No. 2024-08

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

Amendment of Canon 3
of the Michigan Code of
Judicial Conduct

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 Canon 3 of the Michigan Code of Judicial Conduct is adopted, effective September 1, 2026.

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

Canon 3. A Judge Should Perform the Duties of Office Impartially and Diligently.

The judicial duties of a judge take precedence over all other activities. Judicial duties include all the duties of office prescribed by law. A judge shall perform the duties of judicial office, including administrative duties, without bias or prejudice. In the performance of these duties, the following standards apply:

(A) Adjudicative Responsibilities:

(1)-(11) [Unchanged.]

(12) A judge must not knowingly allow~~should prohibit~~ broadcasting, televising, recording, or taking of photographs in or out of the courtroom during sessions of court or recesses between sessions except as provided herein or as authorized by the Supreme Court. See, e.g., AO 1989-1. A presiding judge may specifically allow broadcasting, televising, recording, or photography via portable electronic device in their courtroom. MCR 8.115(C). When there are no objections, a judge may, for example, allow photography or recording to commemorate celebratory events such as adoption day proceedings, treatment court graduations, and swearing-in ceremonies.

(13)-(16) [Unchanged.]

(B)-(D) [Unchanged.]

Staff Comment (ADM File No. 2024-08): The amendment of MCJC Canon 3

clarifies a judge’s responsibility to not knowingly allow unauthorized broadcasting, televising, recording, or taking of photographs in or out of the courtroom during sessions of court or recesses between sessions and lists other authorities addressing this issue.

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.

May 20, 2026

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elizabeth Kingston-Miller", written over a horizontal line.

Clerk