

Order

Michigan Supreme Court
Lansing, Michigan

November 26, 2025

Megan K. Cavanagh,
Chief Justice

ADM File No. 2025-03

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

Proposed Amendment of
Rule 1.111 of the Michigan
Court Rules

On order of the Court, this is to advise that the Court is considering an amendment of Rule 1.111 of the Michigan Court Rules. Before determining whether the proposal should be adopted, changed before adoption, or rejected, this notice is given to afford interested persons the opportunity to comment on the form or the merits of the proposal or to suggest alternatives. The Court welcomes the views of all. This matter will also be considered at a public hearing. The notices and agendas for each public hearing are posted on the [Public Administrative Hearings](#) page.

Publication of this proposal does not mean that the Court will issue an order on the subject, nor does it imply probable adoption of the proposal in its present form.

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

Rule 1.111 Foreign Language Interpreters

(A)-(E) [Unchanged.]

(F) Appointment of Foreign Language Interpreters

(1)-(3) [Unchanged.]

(4) Interpretation costs are at no charge to the individual receiving the services, and reimbursement to the court is prohibited. The court may set reasonable compensation for interpreters who are appointed by the court. Court-appointed interpreter costs are to be paid out of funds provided by law or by the court.

(5) ~~Except as otherwise provided in this subrule, if a party is financially able to pay for interpretation costs, the court may order the party to reimburse the court for all or a portion of interpretation costs. Reimbursement is prohibited in criminal cases.~~

(6)-(7) [Renumbered (5)-(6) but otherwise unchanged.]

(G)-(H) [Unchanged.]

Staff Comment (ADM File No. 2025-03): The proposed amendment of MCR 1.111 would expand free foreign language interpretation services to civil cases as suggested by several commenters on the Court’s initial proposal in this ADM file, which was adopted by the Court with some revisions. The initial proposal only contemplated free interpretation services in criminal cases. The Court is now interested in receiving additional comments regarding its proposal to expand free interpretation services to civil cases. Please note that subrule (F)(5), which would be struck under this proposal, reflects the version of subrule (F)(5) adopted by the Court in its initial proposal that becomes effective on January 1, 2026.

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.

A copy of this order will be given to the Secretary of the State Bar and to the State Court Administrator so that they can make the notifications specified in MCR 1.201. Comments on the proposal may be submitted by March 1, 2026 by clicking on the “Comment on this Proposal” link under this proposal on the [Court’s Proposed & Adopted Orders on Administrative Matters](#) page. You may also submit a comment in writing at P.O. Box 30052, Lansing, MI 48909 or via email at ADMcomment@courts.mi.gov. When submitting a comment, please refer to ADM File No. 2025-03. Your comments and the comments of others will be posted under the chapter affected by this proposal.

ZAHRA, J., would have declined to publish the proposal for comment.



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.

November 26, 2025

Elizabeth Kingston-Miller
Clerk