

Order

Michigan Supreme Court
Lansing, Michigan

December 26, 2025

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

Proposed Amendment of
Canon 3 of the Code of
Judicial Conduct

On order of the Court, this is to advise that the Court is considering an amendment of Canon 3 of the Code of Judicial Conduct. 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.]

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. 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)-(15) [Unchanged.]

B.-D. [Unchanged.]

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

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 April 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. 2024-08. Your comments and the comments of others will be posted under the chapter affected by this proposal.



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.

December 26, 2025

Elizabeth Kingston-Miller
Clerk