

Order

Michigan Supreme Court
Lansing, Michigan

October 30, 2024

Elizabeth T. Clement,
Chief Justice

ADM File No. 2022-48

Brian K. Zahra
David F. Viviano
Richard H. Bernstein
Megan K. Cavanagh
Elizabeth M. Welch
Kyra H. Bolden,
Justices

Proposed Amendment of
Canon 3 of the Michigan
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 Michigan 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)-(3) [Unchanged.]

(4) A judge may make reasonable efforts, consistent with the law and court rules, to facilitate the ability of all litigants, including self-represented litigants, to be fairly heard.

(4)-(14) [Renumbered as (5)-(15) but otherwise unchanged.]

B.-D. [Unchanged.]

Staff Comment (ADM File No. 2022-48): The proposed amendment of MCJC 3 would allow a judge to make reasonable efforts to facilitate the ability of all litigants to be fairly heard.

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 February 1, 2025 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. 2022-48. Your comments and the comments of others will be posted under the chapter affected by this proposal.



I, Larry S. Royster, 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.

October 30, 2024

Handwritten signature of Larry S. Royster in black ink.

Clerk