

Canon 3. A judge should perform the duties of his office impartially and diligently.

(4) **A judge should** accord to every person who is legally interested in a proceeding, or his lawyer, full right to be heard according to law, and, except as authorized by law, **neither initiate nor consider ex parte communications concerning a pending or impending proceeding.** A judge, however, may obtain the advice of a disinterested and impartial expert on the law applicable to a proceeding before him; provided however, a judge should use discretion in such cases and, if the judge considers that justice would require it, should give notice to the parties of the person consulted and the substance of the advice, and afford the parties reasonable opportunity to respond.