

**232.39 Exclusion of public from hearings.**

At any time during the proceedings, the court, on the motion of any of the parties or upon the court's own motion, may exclude the public from hearings under [this subchapter](#) if the court determines that the possibility of damage or harm to the child outweighs the public's interest in having an open hearing. Upon closing the hearing to the public, the court may admit those persons who have direct interest in the case or in the work of the court.

[C24, 27, 31, 35, 39, §3635; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, §232.19; C66, 71, 73, 75, 77, §232.27; C79, 81, §232.39]

[88 Acts, ch 1134, §51](#); [2020 Acts, ch 1062, §94](#)

Referred to in [§232.147](#)

Code editor directive applied