



JPR
ARIZONA JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW

[Home](#) > [Performance Reports](#) > Judicial Reports

Judicial Reports

Commission number votes may vary based upon abstentions. Voting abstentions are procedural matters within the Commission and should not be viewed in any way as a negative factor with respect to a judge's performance.

Maricopa County Voters Only

Hon. Donn Kessler

Court of Appeals Division I
Appointed: 2003

**100% of the Commission Voted Judge Kessler
MEETS Judicial Performance Standards**
30 Commissioners Voted 'Meets'
0 Commissioners Voted 'Does Not Meet'

Show Surveys from Prior Years

2012	Attorney Surveys	Superior Court Judge Surveys
	Distributed: 1392 Returned: 187 Score (See Footnote)	Distributed: 345 Returned: 90 Score (See Footnote)
Legal Ability	91%	98%
Integrity	95%	96%
Communication Skills and Department at Oral Argument	100%	n/a
Temperament	100%	n/a
Admin Performance	99%	100%

FOOTNOTE:

Judges are evaluated on their judicial performance midway through their term and prior to their retention election. Beginning in 2022, their survey evaluation scores include midterm scores and retention scores. Newly appointed judges serve a two-year term and are evaluated prior to their retention election on their retention scores. The score is the percentage of all evaluators who rated the judge "superior", "very good", or "satisfactory" in each of the Commission's evaluation categories. Depending on the assignment, a judge may not have responses in certain categories, indicated by N/A (for example, some judicial assignments do not require jury trials or no survey responses were returned). The JPR Commission votes "Yes" or "No" on whether a judge "MEETS" Judicial Performance Standards, based on the statistical information, as well as any other information submitted by the public or the judge. Further information on the judges and justices can be found at each court's website.



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WHO JUDGES THE JUDGES?



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2012 Attorney Survey Responses

Key: **SU** = Superior **VG** = Very Good **SA** = Satisfactory **PO** = Poor **UN** = Unsatisfactory

	UN		PO		SA		VG		SU		Mean	Total
	Num.	Pct.	Num.	Pct.	Num.	Pct.	Num.	Pct.	Num.	Pct.		
1. Legal Ability												
143. Legal reasoning ability	0	0%	9	10%	11	12%	25	28%	45	50%	3.18	90
144. Knowledge of law	2	2%	7	8%	9	10%	31	34%	41	46%	3.13	90
145. Decisions based on laws and facts	2	2%	6	7%	11	12%	28	30%	45	49%	3.17	92
146. Clearly written, legally supported decisions	2	2%	5	6%	15	17%	22	24%	46	51%	3.17	90
Category Total	6	2%	27	7%	46	13%	106	29%	177	49%	3.16	362
2. Integrity												
147. Basic fairness and impartiality	0	0%	2	3%	10	13%	18	23%	49	62%	3.44	79
148. Equal treatment regardless of race	0	0%	2	5%	1	3%	14	38%	20	54%	3.41	37
149. Equal treatment regardless of gender	0	0%	2	5%	1	2%	14	34%	24	59%	3.46	41
150. Equal treatment regardless of religion	0	0%	2	5%	1	3%	14	38%	20	54%	3.41	37
151. Equal treatment regardless of national origin	0	0%	2	5%	1	3%	14	37%	21	55%	3.42	38
152. Equal treatment regardless of disability	0	0%	2	6%	1	3%	12	34%	20	57%	3.43	35
153. Equal treatment regardless of age	0	0%	2	5%	1	3%	14	36%	22	56%	3.44	39
154. Equal treatment regardless of sexual orientation	0	0%	2	6%	1	3%	12	34%	20	57%	3.43	35
155. Equal treatment regardless of economic status	0	0%	2	5%	3	7%	14	33%	23	55%	3.38	42
Category Total	0	0%	18	5%	20	5%	126	33%	219	57%	3.43	383
3. Communication Skills and Department at Oral Argument												
156. Attentiveness	0	0%	0	0%	2	2%	21	23%	69	75%	3.73	92
157. Demeanor in communications with counsel	0	0%	0	0%	3	3%	22	24%	65	72%	3.69	90
158. Appropriate restrictions on counsel during argument	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	100%	4.00	1

159. Relevant questions	0	0%	0	0%	3	3%	29	32%	58	64%	3.61	90
160. Preparation for oral argument	0	0%	0	0%	4	5%	23	26%	61	69%	3.65	88
Category Total	0	0%	0	0%	12	3%	95	26%	254	70%	3.67	361
4. Temperament												
161. Dignified	0	0%	0	0%	3	3%	27	29%	62	67%	3.64	92
162. Courteous	0	0%	0	0%	3	3%	26	28%	63	68%	3.65	92
163. Patient	0	0%	0	0%	4	4%	26	28%	62	67%	3.63	92
164. Conduct that promoted public confidence in the court and the judge's ability	0	0%	0	0%	2	2%	27	29%	63	68%	3.66	92
Category Total	0	0%	0	0%	12	3%	106	29%	250	68%	3.65	368
5. Admin Performance												
165. Promptness in making rulings and rendering decisions	0	0%	1	1%	17	20%	28	34%	37	45%	3.22	83
Category Total	0	0%	1	1%	17	20%	28	34%	37	45%	3.22	83



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2012 Superior Court Judge Survey Responses

Key: **SU** = Superior **VG** = Very Good **SA** = Satisfactory **PO** = Poor **UN** = Unsatisfactory

	UN		PO		SA		VG		SU		Mean	Total	No Resp
	Num.	Pct.	Num.	Pct.	Num.	Pct.	Num.	Pct.	Num.	Pct.			
1. Legal Ability													
77. Legal reasoning ability	0	0%	1	1%	9	11%	20	24%	55	65%	3.52	85	5
78. Knowledge of the law	0	0%	3	3%	7	8%	20	23%	56	65%	3.50	86	4
79. Decisions based on law and facts	0	0%	1	1%	7	8%	24	28%	54	63%	3.52	86	4
80. Clearly written, legally supported decisions	0	0%	3	3%	7	8%	20	23%	56	65%	3.50	86	4
Category Total	0	0%	8	2%	30	9%	84	24%	221	64%	3.51	343	
2. Integrity													
81. Equal treatment regardless of race	0	0%	3	4%	1	1%	7	10%	58	84%	3.74	69	21
82. Equal treatment regardless of gender	0	0%	1	2%	5	9%	4	7%	48	83%	3.71	58	32
83. Equal treatment regardless of religion	0	0%	3	5%	1	2%	6	11%	47	82%	3.70	57	33
84. Equal treatment regardless of national origin	0	0%	1	2%	5	9%	2	4%	47	85%	3.73	55	35
85. Equal treatment regardless of disability	0	0%	3	5%	1	2%	4	7%	49	86%	3.74	57	33
86. Equal treatment regardless of age	0	0%	1	2%	5	10%	2	4%	43	84%	3.71	51	39
87. Equal treatment regardless of sexual orientation	0	0%	3	6%	1	2%	6	11%	43	81%	3.68	53	37
88. Equal treatment regardless of economic status	0	0%	3	6%	3	6%	4	8%	41	80%	3.63	51	39
89. Basic fairness and impartiality	0	0%	1	2%	3	6%	6	11%	43	81%	3.72	53	37
Category Total	0	0%	19	4%	25	5%	41	8%	419	83%	3.71	504	
3. Admin Performance													
90. Promptness in making rulings and rendering decisions	0	0%	0	0%	3	6%	25	48%	24	46%	3.40	52	38
Category Total	0	0%	0	0%	3	6%	25	48%	24	46%	3.40	52	