



**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.

### Pima County Voters Only

#### Hon. Richard D. Nichols

Pima County Superior Court

Bench: Criminal

Appointed: 1995

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

Show Surveys from Prior Years

2014	<b>Attorney Surveys</b>	<b>Juror Surveys</b>	<b>Litigant Witness Surveys</b>
	Distributed: 209 Returned: 66 <b>Score (See Footnote)</b>	Distributed: 81 Returned: 62 <b>Score (See Footnote)</b>	Distributed: 150 Returned: 44 <b>Score (See Footnote)</b>
Legal Ability	94%	n/a	n/a
Integrity	98%	100%	97%
Communication	96%	100%	96%
Temperament	97%	100%	98%
Admin Performance	99%	99%	98%
Settlement Activities	97%	n/a	n/a

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

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WHO JUDGES THE JUDGES?



## Arizona Commission on Judicial Performance Review

WE CAN HELP.

Hon. Richard D. Nichols

2014 Attorney 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.			
<b>1. Legal Ability</b>													
256. Legal reasoning ability	0	0%	5	8%	15	23%	21	33%	23	36%	2.97	64	0
257. Knowledge of substantive law	0	0%	3	5%	18	29%	18	29%	23	37%	2.98	62	0
258. Knowledge of rules of evidence	0	0%	4	7%	16	27%	17	28%	23	38%	2.98	60	0
259. Knowledge of rules of procedure	0	0%	3	5%	16	26%	20	32%	23	37%	3.02	62	0
<b>Category Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>2.99</b>	<b>248</b>	
<b>2. Integrity</b>													
260. Basic fairness and impartiality	1	2%	3	5%	12	18%	23	35%	27	41%	3.09	66	0
261. Equal treatment regardless of race	0	0%	0	0%	11	19%	23	39%	25	42%	3.24	59	0
262. Equal treatment regardless of gender	0	0%	1	2%	11	18%	23	38%	25	42%	3.20	60	0
263. Equal treatment regardless of religion	0	0%	0	0%	11	20%	21	38%	23	42%	3.22	55	0
264. Equal treatment regardless of national origin	0	0%	0	0%	11	19%	22	38%	25	43%	3.24	58	0
265. Equal treatment regardless of disability	0	0%	0	0%	11	20%	21	38%	24	43%	3.23	56	0
266. Equal treatment regardless of age	0	0%	1	2%	11	19%	22	38%	24	41%	3.19	58	0
267. Equal treatment regardless of sexual orientation	0	0%	0	0%	11	20%	21	38%	23	42%	3.22	55	0
268. Equal treatment regardless of economic status	0	0%	2	3%	13	22%	19	32%	26	43%	3.15	60	0
<b>Category Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>3.20</b>	<b>527</b>	
<b>3. Communication</b>													
269. Clear and logical oral 2s and directions	0	0%	2	3%	21	32%	18	28%	24	37%	2.98	65	0
270. Clear and logical written decisions	0	0%	3	6%	13	24%	18	33%	20	37%	3.02	54	0

271. Gave all parties an adequate opportunity to be heard	0	0%	3	5%	13	20%	22	33%	28	42%	3.14	66	0
<b>Category Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>3.05</b>	<b>185</b>	
<b>4. Temperament</b>													
272. Understanding and compassion	0	0%	3	5%	12	18%	25	38%	26	39%	3.12	66	0
273. Dignified	0	0%	1	2%	13	20%	23	35%	29	44%	3.21	66	0
274. Courteous	0	0%	3	5%	12	18%	22	33%	29	44%	3.17	66	0
275. Conduct that promoted public confidence in the court and judge's ability	0	0%	1	2%	12	18%	23	35%	29	45%	3.23	65	0
276. Patient	0	0%	2	3%	15	23%	19	29%	30	45%	3.17	66	0
<b>Category Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>3.18</b>	<b>329</b>	
<b>5. Admin Performance</b>													
277. Punctual in conducting proceedings	0	0%	0	0%	12	18%	24	36%	30	45%	3.27	66	0
278. Maintained proper control over courtroom	0	0%	0	0%	14	21%	21	32%	31	47%	3.26	66	0
279. Prompt in making rulings and rendering decisions	0	0%	1	2%	14	22%	21	33%	27	43%	3.17	63	0
280. Was prepared for the proceedings	0	0%	1	2%	17	26%	17	26%	30	46%	3.17	65	0
281. Efficient management of the calendar	0	0%	0	0%	15	23%	20	31%	30	46%	3.23	65	0
<b>Category Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>3.22</b>	<b>325</b>	
<b>6. Settlement Activities</b>													
282. Appropriately promoted or conducted settlement	0	0%	1	3%	9	26%	14	40%	11	31%	3.00	35	0
<b>Category Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>3.00</b>	<b>35</b>	



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

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WHO JUDGES THE JUDGES?



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Hon. Richard D. Nichols

2014 Juror 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.			
<b>1. Integrity</b>													
222. Basic fairness and impartiality	0	0%	0	0%	2	3%	21	34%	38	62%	3.59	61	0
223. Equal treatment regardless of race	0	0%	0	0%	1	2%	22	36%	38	62%	3.61	61	0
224. Equal treatment regardless of gender	0	0%	0	0%	1	2%	22	37%	37	62%	3.60	60	0
225. Equal treatment regardless of religion	0	0%	0	0%	1	2%	20	38%	31	60%	3.58	52	0
226. Equal treatment regardless of national origin	0	0%	0	0%	1	2%	20	35%	36	63%	3.61	57	0
227. Equal treatment regardless of disability	0	0%	0	0%	1	2%	18	34%	34	64%	3.62	53	0
228. Equal treatment regardless of age	0	0%	0	0%	1	2%	21	35%	38	63%	3.62	60	0
229. Equal treatment regardless of sexual orientation	0	0%	0	0%	1	2%	18	35%	33	63%	3.62	52	0
230. Equal treatment regardless of economic status	0	0%	0	0%	1	2%	22	39%	34	60%	3.58	57	0
<b>Category Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>3.60</b>	<b>513</b>	
<b>2. Communication</b>													
231. Explained proceedings to the jury	0	0%	0	0%	2	3%	9	15%	50	82%	3.79	61	0
232. Explained reasons for delays	0	0%	0	0%	2	3%	12	20%	46	77%	3.73	60	0
233. Clearly explained the juror's responsibilities	0	0%	0	0%	3	5%	8	13%	50	82%	3.77	61	0
<b>Category Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>3.76</b>	<b>182</b>	
<b>3. Temperament</b>													
234. Understanding and Compassion	0	0%	0	0%	3	5%	16	27%	40	68%	3.63	59	0
235. Dignified	0	0%	0	0%	2	3%	17	28%	42	69%	3.66	61	0
236. Courteous	0	0%	0	0%	2	3%	13	21%	46	75%	3.72	61	0

237. Conduct that promotes public confidence in the court and judge's ability	0	0%	0	0%	1	2%	17	28%	43	70%	3.69	61	0
238. Patient	0	0%	0	0%	3	5%	12	20%	46	75%	3.70	61	0
<b>Category Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>72%</b>	<b>3.68</b>	<b>303</b>	
<b>4. Admin Performance</b>													
239. Punctuality in conducting proceedings	0	0%	0	0%	3	5%	15	24%	44	71%	3.66	62	0
240. Maintained proper control of courtroom	0	0%	1	2%	3	5%	12	19%	46	74%	3.66	62	0
241. Was prepared for the proceedings	0	0%	0	0%	1	2%	15	24%	46	74%	3.73	62	0
<b>Category Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>73%</b>	<b>3.68</b>	<b>186</b>	



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

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2014 Litigant Witness 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.			
<b>1. Integrity</b>													
203. Basic fairness and impartiality	1	2%	0	0%	2	5%	12	28%	28	65%	3.53	43	0
204. Equal treatment regardless of race	0	0%	1	2%	2	5%	12	29%	27	64%	3.55	42	0
205. Equal treatment regardless of gender	0	0%	1	2%	2	5%	12	29%	27	64%	3.55	42	0
206. Equal treatment regardless of religion	0	0%	1	3%	1	3%	10	29%	23	66%	3.57	35	0
207. Equal treatment regardless of national origin	0	0%	1	3%	1	3%	11	28%	26	67%	3.59	39	0
208. Equal treatment regardless of disability	1	3%	0	0%	1	3%	11	29%	25	66%	3.55	38	0
209. Equal treatment regardless of age	0	0%	1	2%	2	5%	12	29%	26	63%	3.54	41	0
210. Equal treatment regardless of sexual orientation	0	0%	1	3%	1	3%	11	30%	24	65%	3.57	37	0
211. Equal treatment regardless of economic status	1	3%	0	0%	1	3%	11	28%	26	67%	3.56	39	0
<b>Category Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>65%</b>	<b>3.56</b>	<b>356</b>	
<b>2. Communication</b>													
212. Explained proceedings	1	2%	0	0%	3	7%	10	24%	28	67%	3.52	42	0
213. Explained reasons for delays	0	0%	2	5%	4	11%	8	21%	24	63%	3.42	38	0
<b>Category Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>65%</b>	<b>3.48</b>	<b>80</b>	
<b>3. Temperament</b>													
214. Understanding and compassion	1	2%	0	0%	3	7%	10	23%	30	68%	3.55	44	0
215. Dignified	0	0%	0	0%	3	7%	10	23%	31	70%	3.64	44	0
216. Courteous	0	0%	0	0%	3	7%	9	20%	32	73%	3.66	44	0
217. Conduct that promotes public confidence in the court	1	2%	0	0%	2	5%	9	20%	32	73%	3.61	44	0

218. Patient	1	2%	1	2%	2	5%	10	23%	30	68%	3.52	44	0
<b>Category Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>70%</b>	<b>3.60</b>	<b>220</b>	
<b>4. Admin Performance</b>													
219. Punctual in conducting proceedings	0	0%	2	5%	2	5%	10	23%	29	67%	3.53	43	0
220. Maintained proper control of courtroom	0	0%	1	2%	4	10%	8	20%	28	68%	3.54	41	0
221. Was prepared for the proceedings	0	0%	0	0%	3	7%	11	27%	27	66%	3.59	41	0
<b>Category Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>3.55</b>	<b>125</b>	