

Judges are evaluated by survey on their judicial performance midway through their term and prior to their retention election. Beginning in 2022, their survey evaluations include midterm and retention feedback. Newly appointed judges serve a two-year term and are evaluated prior to their retention election. The composite percentage table is an average of all evaluators who rated the judge "superior", "very good", or "satisfactory" in each of the Commission's evaluation categories. Some evaluators select "Can't Rate" on the questionnaire affecting the average response number within their respondent category. The JPR Commission votes whether a judge "Meets" or "Does Not Meet" Judicial Performance Standards, based on the survey information and any other information submitted by the public or the judge. Further information on the judges and justices can be found on each court's website.

**Commission on Judicial Performance Review
Composite Percentage - Average of all Evaluation Categories**

Superior Court in Maricopa County

Hon. Christopher T. Whitten

2024		
Evaluation Category	Total Survey Responses	Average Percentage of Satisfactory or Above
Legal Ability	51	100%
Integrity	125	98%
Communication Skills	129	98%
Judicial Temperament	131	98%
Administrative Performance	131	98%
Settlement Activities	30	97%

Responses based upon 137 returned survey questionnaires from a distribution of 539 questionnaires. Survey respondents may not necessarily answer all survey questions.

ARIZONA COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW

Superior Court

Name of Judge: **Hon. Christopher T. Whitten** Total Surveys: 129 Assignment: Juvenile Cycle: 2021 & 2023

Name of Judge:	ATTORNEY					47		LIT/WIT/PRO PER					82		JUROR					0	
	SU	VG	SA	PO	UN	Resp	Mean	SU	VG	SA	PO	UN	Resp	Mean	SU	VG	SA	PO	UN	Resp	Mean
Hon. Christopher T. Whitten	30	8	6	0	0	44	3.6														
Section I: Legal Ability	30	8	6	0	0	44	3.6														
Legal reasoning ability	30	10	5	0	0	45	3.6														
Knowledge of substantive law	30	7	7	0	0	44	3.5														
Knowledge of rules of evidence	30	7	5	0	0	42	3.6														
Knowledge of rules of procedure	31	6	7	0	0	44	3.5														
Section II: Integrity	34	6	3	0	0	44	3.7	55	12	6	1	0	75	3.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Basic fairness and impartiality	35	7	2	2	0	46	3.6	57	11	9	0	3	80	3.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Equal treatment regardless of race	36	6	3	0	0	45	3.7	58	12	7	2	0	79	3.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Equal treatment regardless of gender	35	6	3	0	0	44	3.7	57	11	7	1	1	77	3.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Equal treatment regardless of religion	33	6	3	0	0	42	3.7	53	11	5	1	0	70	3.7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Equal treatment regardless of national origin	35	6	3	0	0	44	3.7	56	12	5	1	0	74	3.7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Equal treatment regardless of disability	34	6	3	0	0	43	3.7	52	11	5	1	0	69	3.7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Equal treatment regardless of age	34	5	4	0	0	43	3.7	55	13	6	1	0	75	3.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Equal treatment regardless of sexual orientation	34	6	3	0	0	43	3.7	52	11	6	2	0	71	3.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Equal treatment regardless of economic status	34	5	3	1	0	43	3.7	56	12	8	2	0	78	3.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Section III: Communication Skills	32	7	4	1	0	44	3.6	58	10	8	1	1	78	3.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Clear and logical communications																					
Clear and logical oral communications and directions	32	8	4	1	0	45	3.6														
Clear and logical written decisions	31	6	4	0	0	41	3.7														
Gave all parties an adequate opportunity to be heard	34	8	3	1	0	46	3.6														
Explained proceedings (to the jury)								60	10	7	1	1	79	3.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Explained reason for delays								56	10	9	1	1	77	3.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Clearly explained the juror's responsibilities															0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Section IV: Judicial temperament	37	6	2	1	0	46	3.7	59	10	7	2	0	78	3.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Understanding and compassion	36	7	1	2	0	46	3.7	61	10	8	1	0	80	3.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Dignified	36	6	4	0	0	46	3.7	59	10	6	3	0	78	3.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Courteous	38	5	2	1	0	46	3.7	61	9	6	2	0	78	3.7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Conduct that promotes public confidence in the court	38	6	2	0	0	46	3.8	57	12	7	2	0	78	3.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Patient	37	5	2	2	0	46	3.7	59	9	7	2	0	77	3.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Section V: Administrative Performance	33	8	3	1	0	45	3.6	58	13	7	1	1	79	3.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Punctual in conducting proceedings	31	9	4	1	1	46	3.5	58	14	7	0	1	80	3.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Maintained proper control of courtroom	33	9	4	0	0	46	3.6	59	12	7	1	0	79	3.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Prompt in making rulings and rendering decisions	33	7	2	2	0	44	3.6														
Was prepared for the proceedings	34	8	2	2	0	46	3.6	58	13	6	1	1	79	3.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Respectful treatment of staff																					
Cooperation with peers																					
Efficient management of calendar	32	9	3	1	0	45	3.6														
Section VI: Settlement Activities	25	3	1	1	0	30	3.7														
Appropriately promoted or conducted settlement	25	3	1	1	0	30	3.7														

UN=Unacceptable, PO=Poor,
SA=Satisfactory, VG=Very Good,
SU=Superior

Category summaries are averages and may not add up due to rounding.

Surveys were distributed to court users from 02/2021 -09/2023

ARIZONA COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW

Superior Court

Name of Judge:	Total Surveys: 129						Assignment: Juvenile					Cycle: 2021 & 2023							
	ATTORNEY					47	LIT/WIT/PROPER					82	JUROR					0	
Hon. Christopher T. Whitten	SU	VG	SA	PO	UN	Mean	SU	VG	SA	PO	UN	Mean	SU	VG	SA	PO	UN	Mean	
Section I: Legal Ability	69%	17%	14%	0%	0%	3.6													
Legal reasoning ability	67%	22%	11%	0%	0%	3.6													
Knowledge of substantive law	68%	16%	16%	0%	0%	3.5													
Knowledge of rules of evidence	71%	17%	12%	0%	0%	3.6													
Knowledge of rules of procedure	70%	14%	16%	0%	0%	3.5													
Section II: Integrity	79%	13%	7%	1%	0%	3.7	74%	15%	9%	2%	1%	3.6	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0	
Basic fairness and impartiality	76%	15%	4%	4%	0%	3.6	71%	14%	11%	0%	4%	3.5	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0	
Equal treatment regardless of race	80%	13%	7%	0%	0%	3.7	73%	15%	9%	3%	0%	3.6	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0	
Equal treatment regardless of gender	80%	14%	7%	0%	0%	3.7	74%	14%	9%	1%	1%	3.6	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0	
Equal treatment regardless of religion	79%	14%	7%	0%	0%	3.7	76%	16%	7%	1%	0%	3.7	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0	
Equal treatment regardless of national origin	80%	14%	7%	0%	0%	3.7	76%	16%	7%	1%	0%	3.7	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0	
Equal treatment regardless of disability	79%	14%	7%	0%	0%	3.7	75%	16%	7%	1%	0%	3.7	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0	
Equal treatment regardless of age	79%	12%	9%	0%	0%	3.7	73%	17%	8%	1%	0%	3.6	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0	
Equal treatment regardless of sexual orientation	79%	14%	7%	0%	0%	3.7	73%	15%	8%	3%	0%	3.6	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0	
Equal treatment regardless of economic status	79%	12%	7%	2%	0%	3.7	72%	15%	10%	3%	0%	3.6	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0	
Section III: Communication Skills	73%	17%	8%	2%	0%	3.6	74%	13%	10%	1%	1%	3.6	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0	
Clear and logical communications																			
Clear and logical oral communications and directions	71%	18%	9%	2%	0%	3.6													
Clear and logical written decisions	76%	15%	10%	0%	0%	3.7													
Gave all parties an adequate opportunity to be heard	74%	17%	7%	2%	0%	3.6													
Explained proceedings (to the jury)							76%	13%	9%	1%	1%	3.6	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0	
Explained reason for delays							73%	13%	12%	1%	1%	3.5	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0	
Clearly explained the juror's responsibilities													0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0	
Section IV: Judicial temperament	80%	13%	5%	2%	0%	3.7	76%	13%	9%	3%	0%	3.6	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0	
Understanding and compassion	78%	15%	2%	4%	0%	3.7	76%	13%	10%	1%	0%	3.6	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0	
Dignified	78%	13%	9%	0%	0%	3.7	76%	13%	8%	4%	0%	3.6	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0	
Courteous	83%	11%	4%	2%	0%	3.7	78%	12%	8%	3%	0%	3.7	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0	
Conduct that promotes public confidence in the court	83%	13%	4%	0%	0%	3.8	73%	15%	9%	3%	0%	3.6	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0	
Patient	80%	11%	4%	4%	0%	3.7	77%	12%	9%	3%	0%	3.6	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0	
Section V: Administrative Performance	72%	19%	7%	3%	0%	3.6	74%	16%	8%	1%	1%	3.6	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0	
Punctual in conducting proceedings	67%	20%	9%	2%	2%	3.5	73%	18%	9%	0%	1%	3.6	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0	
Maintained proper control of courtroom	72%	20%	9%	0%	0%	3.6	75%	15%	9%	1%	0%	3.6	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0	
Prompt in making rulings and rendering decisions	75%	16%	5%	5%	0%	3.6													
Was prepared for the proceedings	74%	17%	4%	4%	0%	3.6	73%	16%	8%	1%	1%	3.6	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0	
Respectful treatment of staff																			
Cooperation with peers																			
Efficient management of calendar	71%	20%	7%	2%	0%	3.6													
Section VI: Settlement Activities	83%	10%	3%	3%	0%	3.7													
Appropriately promoted or conducted settlement	83%	10%	3%	3%	0%	3.7													

UN=Unacceptable, PO=Poor,
 SA=Satisfactory, VG=Very Good,
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Surveys were distributed to court users from 02/2021 - 09/2023

ARIZONA COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW

Superior Court

Name of Judge:	Total Surveys: 8					Fall 2023	
	PEER JUDGE					Total	Mean
Hon. Christopher T. Whitten	EX	VG	AC	PO	FA		
Section I: Legal Ability	7	0	0	0	0	7	5.0
Decisions based on law and facts	7	0	0	0	0	7	5.0
Knowledge of rules of evidence	7	0	0	0	0	7	5.0
Knowledge of rules of procedure	7	0	0	0	0	7	5.0
Section II: Integrity	7	0	0	0	0	7	5.0
Unbiased and impartial	7	0	0	0	0	7	5.0
Section III: Communication Skills	7	0	0	0	0	7	5.0
Communication skills	7	0	0	0	0	7	5.0
Section IV: Judicial temperament	7	0	0	0	0	7	5.0
Conduct that promotes public confidence in the court and judge's ability	7	0	0	0	0	7	5.0
Respectful to all individuals	7	0	0	0	0	7	5.0
Section V: Administrative Performance	7	0	0	0	0	7	5.0
Works effectively with other judges	8	0	0	0	0	8	5.0
Works effectively with court personnel	6	0	0	0	0	6	5.0
Efficient management of calendar	5	0	0	0	0	5	5.0
Does a fair share of work	7	0	0	0	0	7	5.0

FA=Failing, PO=Poor,
AC=Acceptable, VG=Very Good,
EX=Excellent

Category summaries are averages and may not add up due to rounding.

Surveys were distributed to court
users from 09/2023 - 11/2023

ARIZONA COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW

Superior Court

Name of Judge:	Total Surveys: 8					Fall 2023
Hon. Christopher T. Whitten	PEER JUDGE					Mean
	EX	VG	AC	PO	FA	
Section I: Legal Ability	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5.0
Decisions based on law and facts	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5.0
Knowledge of rules of evidence	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5.0
Knowledge of rules of procedure	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5.0
Section II: Integrity	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5.0
Unbiased and impartial	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5.0
Section III: Communication Skills	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5.0
Communication skills	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5.0
Section IV: Judicial temperament	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5.0
Conduct that promotes public confidence in the court and judge's ability	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5.0
Respectful to all individuals	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5.0
Section V: Administrative Performance	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5.0
Works effectively with other judges	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5.0
Works effectively with court personnel	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5.0
Efficient management of calendar	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5.0
Does a fair share of work	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5.0

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AC=Acceptable, VG=Very Good,
EX=Excellent

Category summaries are averages and may not add up due to rounding.

Surveys were distributed to court users from 09/2023 - 11/2023