

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 Pima County

Hon. Michael J. Butler

2024		
Evaluation Category	Total Survey Responses	Average Percentage of Satisfactory or Above
Legal Ability	59	96%
Integrity	129	98%
Communication Skills	125	98%
Judicial Temperament	139	98%
Administrative Performance	136	99%
Settlement Activities	25	96%

Responses based upon 141 returned survey questionnaires from a distribution of 675 questionnaires. Survey respondents may not necessarily answer all survey questions.

ARIZONA COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW

Superior Court

Name of Judge: **Hon. Michael J. Butler** Total Surveys: 137 Assignment: Civil Cycle: 2021 & 2023

Name of Judge:	ATTORNEY					LIT/WIT/PRO PER					JUROR										
	SU	VG	SA	PO	UN	59 Resp Mean	SU	VG	SA	PO	UN	51 Resp Mean	SU	VG	SA	PO	UN	27 Resp Mean			
Hon. Michael J. Butler																					
Section I: Legal Ability	25	21	8	1	2	56	3.2														
Legal reasoning ability	26	20	8	1	2	57	3.2														
Knowledge of substantive law	21	23	10	0	2	56	3.1														
Knowledge of rules of evidence	27	19	6	1	1	54	3.3														
Knowledge of rules of procedure	25	23	7	1	2	58	3.2														
Section II: Integrity	39	7	6	1	0	53	3.6	36	8	1	1	1	48	3.6	19	5	0	0	0	24	3.8
Basic fairness and impartiality	35	11	9	3	0	58	3.3	38	9	1	0	2	50	3.6	22	4	0	0	0	26	3.8
Equal treatment regardless of race	40	8	6	1	0	55	3.6	35	8	1	1	1	46	3.6	21	5	0	0	0	26	3.8
Equal treatment regardless of gender	40	8	8	0	0	56	3.6	36	8	1	0	2	47	3.6	21	5	0	0	0	26	3.8
Equal treatment regardless of religion	37	5	6	1	0	49	3.6	34	9	1	1	1	46	3.6	17	5	0	0	0	22	3.8
Equal treatment regardless of national origin	40	6	6	1	0	53	3.6	36	9	1	1	1	48	3.6	18	5	0	0	0	23	3.8
Equal treatment regardless of disability	39	7	5	1	0	52	3.6	37	9	0	2	1	49	3.6	18	5	0	0	0	23	3.8
Equal treatment regardless of age	40	7	6	0	0	53	3.6	37	9	1	1	1	49	3.6	20	5	0	0	0	25	3.8
Equal treatment regardless of sexual orientation	38	5	5	0	0	48	3.7	36	8	1	1	1	47	3.6	17	5	0	0	0	22	3.8
Equal treatment regardless of economic status	40	9	7	1	0	57	3.5	36	7	1	1	1	46	3.7	20	5	0	0	0	25	3.8
Section III: Communication Skills	32	12	7	1	0	52	3.5	32	8	1	1	1	43	3.6	23	3	0	0	0	27	3.9
Clear and logical communications																					
Clear and logical oral communications and directions	34	16	8	1	0	59	3.4														
Clear and logical written decisions	24	9	3	1	0	37	3.5														
Gave all parties an adequate opportunity to be heard	38	12	9	0	0	59	3.5														
Explained proceedings (to the jury)								35	8	1	1	1	46	3.6	24	3	0	0	0	27	3.9
Explained reason for delays								29	7	1	1	1	39	3.6	22	3	1	0	0	26	3.8
Clearly explained the juror's responsibilities															24	3	0	0	0	27	3.9
Section IV: Judicial temperament	42	10	5	1	0	58	3.6	41	7	1	1	1	51	3.7	24	2	1	0	0	27	3.8
Understanding and compassion	41	12	4	1	0	58	3.6	41	7	2	0	1	51	3.7	23	3	1	0	0	27	3.8
Dignified	44	8	6	0	0	58	3.7	41	7	1	1	1	51	3.7	24	2	1	0	0	27	3.9
Courteous	44	10	4	0	0	58	3.7	42	7	0	1	1	51	3.7	23	3	1	0	0	27	3.8
Conduct that promotes public confidence in the court	42	10	5	1	0	58	3.6	41	7	2	0	1	51	3.7	24	2	1	0	0	27	3.9
Patient	41	9	5	2	0	57	3.6	42	7	0	1	1	51	3.7	25	1	1	0	0	27	3.9
Section V: Administrative Performance	37	14	4	1	0	57	3.5	39	7	2	0	0	49	3.8	21	5	1	0	0	27	3.7
Punctual in conducting proceedings	39	13	5	1	0	58	3.6	39	8	2	0	0	49	3.8	20	5	2	0	0	27	3.7
Maintained proper control of courtroom	41	12	5	0	0	58	3.6	39	7	2	0	0	48	3.8	22	4	1	0	0	27	3.8
Prompt in making rulings and rendering decisions	35	15	4	1	0	55	3.5														
Was prepared for the proceedings	36	18	3	1	0	58	3.5	40	7	2	0	0	49	3.8	21	5	1	0	0	27	3.7
Respectful treatment of staff																					
Cooperation with peers																					
Efficient management of calendar	34	14	5	2	0	55	3.5														
Section VI: Settlement Activities	16	6	2	1	0	25	3.5														
Appropriately promoted or conducted settlement	16	6	2	1	0	25	3.5														

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: 137					Assignment: Civil					Cycle: 2021 & 2023								
	ATTORNEY					59	LIT/WIT/PROPER					51	JUROR					27	
Hon. Michael J. Butler	SU	VG	SA	PO	UN	Mean	SU	VG	SA	PO	UN	Mean	SU	VG	SA	PO	UN	Mean	
Section I: Legal Ability	44%	38%	14%	1%	3%	3.2													
Legal reasoning ability	46%	35%	14%	2%	4%	3.2													
Knowledge of substantive law	38%	41%	18%	0%	4%	3.1													
Knowledge of rules of evidence	50%	35%	11%	2%	2%	3.3													
Knowledge of rules of procedure	43%	40%	12%	2%	3%	3.2													
Section II: Integrity	73%	14%	12%	2%	0%	3.6	76%	18%	2%	2%	3%	3.6	80%	20%	0%	0%	0%	3.8	
Basic fairness and impartiality	60%	19%	16%	5%	0%	3.3	76%	18%	2%	0%	4%	3.6	85%	15%	0%	0%	0%	3.8	
Equal treatment regardless of race	73%	15%	11%	2%	0%	3.6	76%	17%	2%	2%	2%	3.6	81%	19%	0%	0%	0%	3.8	
Equal treatment regardless of gender	71%	14%	14%	0%	0%	3.6	77%	17%	2%	0%	4%	3.6	81%	19%	0%	0%	0%	3.8	
Equal treatment regardless of religion	76%	10%	12%	2%	0%	3.6	74%	20%	2%	2%	2%	3.6	77%	23%	0%	0%	0%	3.8	
Equal treatment regardless of national origin	75%	11%	11%	2%	0%	3.6	75%	19%	2%	2%	2%	3.6	78%	22%	0%	0%	0%	3.8	
Equal treatment regardless of disability	75%	13%	10%	2%	0%	3.6	76%	18%	0%	4%	2%	3.6	78%	22%	0%	0%	0%	3.8	
Equal treatment regardless of age	75%	13%	11%	0%	0%	3.6	76%	18%	2%	2%	2%	3.6	80%	20%	0%	0%	0%	3.8	
Equal treatment regardless of sexual orientation	79%	10%	10%	0%	0%	3.7	77%	17%	2%	2%	2%	3.6	77%	23%	0%	0%	0%	3.8	
Equal treatment regardless of economic status	70%	16%	12%	2%	0%	3.5	78%	15%	2%	2%	2%	3.7	80%	20%	0%	0%	0%	3.8	
Section III: Communication Skills	62%	24%	13%	1%	0%	3.5	75%	18%	2%	2%	2%	3.6	88%	11%	1%	0%	0%	3.9	
Clear and logical communications																			
Clear and logical oral communications and directions	58%	27%	14%	2%	0%	3.4													
Clear and logical written decisions	65%	24%	8%	3%	0%	3.5													
Gave all parties an adequate opportunity to be heard	64%	20%	15%	0%	0%	3.5													
Explained proceedings (to the jury)							76%	17%	2%	2%	2%	3.6	89%	11%	0%	0%	0%	3.9	
Explained reason for delays							74%	18%	3%	3%	3%	3.6	85%	12%	4%	0%	0%	3.8	
Clearly explained the juror's responsibilities													89%	11%	0%	0%	0%	3.9	
Section IV: Judicial temperament	73%	17%	8%	1%	0%	3.6	81%	14%	2%	1%	2%	3.7	88%	8%	4%	0%	0%	3.8	
Understanding and compassion	71%	21%	7%	2%	0%	3.6	80%	14%	4%	0%	2%	3.7	85%	11%	4%	0%	0%	3.8	
Dignified	76%	14%	10%	0%	0%	3.7	80%	14%	2%	2%	2%	3.7	89%	7%	4%	0%	0%	3.9	
Courteous	76%	17%	7%	0%	0%	3.7	82%	14%	0%	2%	2%	3.7	85%	11%	4%	0%	0%	3.8	
Conduct that promotes public confidence in the court	72%	17%	9%	2%	0%	3.6	80%	14%	4%	0%	2%	3.7	89%	7%	4%	0%	0%	3.9	
Patient	72%	16%	9%	4%	0%	3.6	82%	14%	0%	2%	2%	3.7	93%	4%	4%	0%	0%	3.9	
Section V: Administrative Performance	65%	25%	8%	2%	0%	3.5	81%	15%	4%	0%	0%	3.8	78%	17%	5%	0%	0%	3.7	
Punctual in conducting proceedings	67%	22%	9%	2%	0%	3.6	80%	16%	4%	0%	0%	3.8	74%	19%	7%	0%	0%	3.7	
Maintained proper control of courtroom	71%	21%	9%	0%	0%	3.6	81%	15%	4%	0%	0%	3.8	81%	15%	4%	0%	0%	3.8	
Prompt in making rulings and rendering decisions	64%	27%	7%	2%	0%	3.5													
Was prepared for the proceedings	62%	31%	5%	2%	0%	3.5	82%	14%	4%	0%	0%	3.8	78%	19%	4%	0%	0%	3.7	
Respectful treatment of staff																			
Cooperation with peers																			
Efficient management of calendar	62%	25%	9%	4%	0%	3.5													
Section VI: Settlement Activities	64%	24%	8%	4%	0%	3.5													
Appropriately promoted or conducted settlement	64%	24%	8%	4%	0%	3.5													

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: 4					Fall 2023	
	PEER JUDGE					Total	Mean
Hon. Michael J. Butler	EX	VG	AC	PO	FA		
Section I: Legal Ability	3	0	0	0	0	3	5.0
Decisions based on law and facts	2	0	0	0	0	2	5.0
Knowledge of rules of evidence	3	0	0	0	0	3	5.0
Knowledge of rules of procedure	3	0	0	0	0	3	5.0
Section II: Integrity	4	0	0	0	0	4	5.0
Unbiased and impartial	4	0	0	0	0	4	5.0
Section III: Communication Skills	4	0	0	0	0	4	5.0
Communication skills	4	0	0	0	0	4	5.0
Section IV: Judicial temperament	3	0	0	0	0	3	5.0
Conduct that promotes public confidence in the court and judge's ability	3	0	0	0	0	3	5.0
Respectful to all individuals	3	0	0	0	0	3	5.0
Section V: Administrative Performance	3	0	0	0	0	3	5.0
Works effectively with other judges	4	0	0	0	0	4	5.0
Works effectively with court personnel	3	0	0	0	0	3	5.0
Efficient management of calendar	2	0	0	0	0	2	5.0
Does a fair share of work	4	0	0	0	0	4	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: 4					Fall 2023
	PEER JUDGE					Mean
Hon. Michael J. Butler	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