

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. Michael S. Mandell**

<b>2024</b>		
<b>Evaluation Category</b>	Total Survey Responses	Average Percentage of Satisfactory or Above
Legal Ability	48	84%
Integrity	117	99%
Communication Skills	127	94%
Judicial Temperament	128	96%
Administrative Performance	126	94%
Settlement Activities	29	72%

Responses based upon 134 returned survey questionnaires from a distribution of 928 questionnaires. Survey respondents may not necessarily answer all survey questions.

ARIZONA COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW

Superior Court

Name of Judge: Hon.

Total Surveys: 119

Assignment: Criminal

Cycle: 2021 & 2023

Michael S. Mandell	ATTORNEY					42		LIT/WIT/PRO PER					17		JUROR					60	
	SU	VG	SA	PO	UN	Resp	Mean	SU	VG	SA	PO	UN	Resp	Mean	SU	VG	SA	PO	UN	Resp	Mean
<b>Section I: Legal Ability</b>	9	9	10	3	4	35	2.4														
Legal reasoning ability	9	12	8	3	4	36	2.5														
Knowledge of substantive law	10	7	10	5	4	36	2.4														
Knowledge of rules of evidence	9	7	9	3	4	32	2.4														
Knowledge of rules of procedure	9	8	12	2	5	36	2.4														
<b>Section II: Integrity</b>	13	8	8	1	0	30	3.1	11	3	2	0	0	16	3.5	55	2	1	0	0	58	3.9
Basic fairness and impartiality	12	12	9	6	1	40	2.7	11	4	2	0	0	17	3.5	55	4	1	0	0	60	3.9
Equal treatment regardless of race	13	8	11	0	0	32	3.1	11	4	2	0	0	17	3.5	57	1	1	0	0	59	3.9
Equal treatment regardless of gender	14	8	9	1	0	32	3.1	11	3	2	0	0	16	3.6	57	1	1	0	0	59	3.9
Equal treatment regardless of religion	12	7	6	0	0	25	3.2	10	3	2	0	0	15	3.5	54	2	1	0	0	57	3.9
Equal treatment regardless of national origin	14	7	8	0	0	29	3.2	10	3	2	0	0	15	3.5	55	2	1	0	0	58	3.9
Equal treatment regardless of disability	12	7	6	0	1	26	3.1	10	3	2	0	0	15	3.5	54	2	1	0	0	57	3.9
Equal treatment regardless of age	14	9	8	0	0	31	3.2	11	4	2	0	0	17	3.5	54	2	1	0	0	57	3.9
Equal treatment regardless of sexual orientation	12	7	6	0	0	25	3.2	10	3	2	0	0	15	3.5	53	2	1	0	0	56	3.9
Equal treatment regardless of economic status	13	10	9	0	0	32	3.1	11	4	2	0	0	17	3.5	54	2	1	0	0	57	3.9
<b>Section III: Communication Skills</b>	11	12	8	5	2	38	2.7	10	3	2	1	0	16	3.5	55	3	2	0	0	60	3.9
Clear and logical communications																					
Clear and logical oral communications and directions	10	13	8	8	2	41	2.5														
Clear and logical written decisions	9	8	9	4	2	32	2.6														
Gave all parties an adequate opportunity to be heard	14	15	8	3	2	42	2.9														
Explained proceedings (to the jury)								10	4	2	0	0	16	3.5	57	2	1	0	0	60	3.9
Explained reason for delays								10	2	2	1	0	15	3.4	56	2	2	0	0	60	3.9
Clearly explained the juror's responsibilities															53	5	2	0	0	60	3.9
<b>Section IV: Judicial temperament</b>	15	9	12	2	3	42	2.8	10	3	2	1	0	16	3.4	55	3	0	0	0	58	3.9
Understanding and compassion	15	8	13	2	3	41	2.7	10	2	2	1	0	15	3.4	52	5	0	0	0	57	3.9
Dignified	16	9	13	1	3	42	2.8	10	3	3	0	0	16	3.4	55	3	0	0	0	58	3.9
Courteous	16	9	13	1	3	42	2.8	9	3	2	1	0	15	3.3	56	2	0	0	0	58	4.0
Conduct that promotes public confidence in the court	15	9	9	4	4	41	2.7	10	3	3	0	0	16	3.4	56	2	0	0	0	58	4.0
Patient	15	10	13	1	3	42	2.8	10	3	2	1	0	16	3.4	55	3	0	0	0	58	3.9
<b>Section V: Administrative Performance</b>	14	9	10	3	4	39	2.6	10	3	2	0	0	16	3.4	53	4	1	0	0	58	3.9
Punctual in conducting proceedings	12	10	10	2	5	39	2.6	10	3	2	1	0	16	3.4	50	6	2	0	0	58	3.8
Maintained proper control of courtroom	13	11	11	2	3	40	2.7	10	3	3	0	0	16	3.4	56	2	0	0	0	58	4.0
Prompt in making rulings and rendering decisions	13	7	12	1	5	38	2.6														
Was prepared for the proceedings	15	8	10	5	2	40	2.7	10	4	2	0	0	16	3.5	53	5	0	0	0	58	3.9
Respectful treatment of staff																					
Cooperation with peers																					
Efficient management of calendar	15	8	8	3	6	40	2.6														
<b>Section VI: Settlement Activities</b>	9	6	6	4	4	29	2.4														
Appropriately promoted or conducted settlement	9	6	6	4	4	29	2.4														

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: 119						Assignment: Criminal					Cycle: 2021 & 2023							
	ATTORNEY					42	LIT/WIT/PRO PER					17	JUROR					60	
Hon. Michael S. Mandell	SU	VG	SA	PO	UN	Mean	SU	VG	SA	PO	UN	Mean	SU	VG	SA	PO	UN	Mean	
<b>Section I: Legal Ability</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>2.4</b>													
Legal reasoning ability	25%	33%	22%	8%	11%	2.5													
Knowledge of substantive law	28%	19%	28%	14%	11%	2.4													
Knowledge of rules of evidence	28%	22%	28%	9%	13%	2.4													
Knowledge of rules of procedure	25%	22%	33%	6%	14%	2.4													
<b>Section II: Integrity</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>3.9</b>	
Basic fairness and impartiality	30%	30%	23%	15%	3%	2.7	65%	24%	12%	0%	0%	3.5	92%	7%	2%	0%	0%	3.9	
Equal treatment regardless of race	41%	25%	34%	0%	0%	3.1	65%	24%	12%	0%	0%	3.5	97%	2%	2%	0%	0%	3.9	
Equal treatment regardless of gender	44%	25%	28%	3%	0%	3.1	69%	19%	13%	0%	0%	3.6	97%	2%	2%	0%	0%	3.9	
Equal treatment regardless of religion	48%	28%	24%	0%	0%	3.2	67%	20%	13%	0%	0%	3.5	95%	4%	2%	0%	0%	3.9	
Equal treatment regardless of national origin	48%	24%	28%	0%	0%	3.2	67%	20%	13%	0%	0%	3.5	95%	3%	2%	0%	0%	3.9	
Equal treatment regardless of disability	46%	27%	23%	0%	4%	3.1	67%	20%	13%	0%	0%	3.5	95%	4%	2%	0%	0%	3.9	
Equal treatment regardless of age	45%	29%	26%	0%	0%	3.2	65%	24%	12%	0%	0%	3.5	95%	4%	2%	0%	0%	3.9	
Equal treatment regardless of sexual orientation	48%	28%	24%	0%	0%	3.2	67%	20%	13%	0%	0%	3.5	95%	4%	2%	0%	0%	3.9	
Equal treatment regardless of economic status	41%	31%	28%	0%	0%	3.1	65%	24%	12%	0%	0%	3.5	95%	4%	2%	0%	0%	3.9	
<b>Section III: Communication Skills</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>65%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>3.9</b>	
Clear and logical communications																			
Clear and logical oral communications and directions	24%	32%	20%	20%	5%	2.5													
Clear and logical written decisions	28%	25%	28%	13%	6%	2.6													
Gave all parties an adequate opportunity to be heard	33%	36%	19%	7%	5%	2.9													
Explained proceedings (to the jury)							63%	25%	13%	0%	0%	3.5	95%	3%	2%	0%	0%	3.9	
Explained reason for delays							67%	13%	13%	7%	0%	3.4	93%	3%	3%	0%	0%	3.9	
Clearly explained the juror's responsibilities													88%	8%	3%	0%	0%	3.9	
<b>Section IV: Judicial temperament</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>3.9</b>	
Understanding and compassion	37%	20%	32%	5%	7%	2.7	67%	13%	13%	7%	0%	3.4	91%	9%	0%	0%	0%	3.9	
Dignified	38%	21%	31%	2%	7%	2.8	63%	19%	19%	0%	0%	3.4	95%	5%	0%	0%	0%	3.9	
Courteous	38%	21%	31%	2%	7%	2.8	60%	20%	13%	7%	0%	3.3	97%	3%	0%	0%	0%	4.0	
Conduct that promotes public confidence in the court	37%	22%	22%	10%	10%	2.7	63%	19%	19%	0%	0%	3.4	97%	3%	0%	0%	0%	4.0	
Patient	36%	24%	31%	2%	7%	2.8	63%	19%	13%	6%	0%	3.4	95%	5%	0%	0%	0%	3.9	
<b>Section V: Administrative Performance</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>3.9</b>	
Punctual in conducting proceedings	31%	26%	26%	5%	13%	2.6	63%	19%	13%	6%	0%	3.4	86%	10%	3%	0%	0%	3.8	
Maintained proper control of courtroom	33%	28%	28%	5%	8%	2.7	63%	19%	19%	0%	0%	3.4	97%	3%	0%	0%	0%	4.0	
Prompt in making rulings and rendering decisions	34%	18%	32%	3%	13%	2.6													
Was prepared for the proceedings	38%	20%	25%	13%	5%	2.7	63%	25%	13%	0%	0%	3.5	91%	9%	0%	0%	0%	3.9	
Respectful treatment of staff																			
Cooperation with peers																			
Efficient management of calendar	38%	20%	20%	8%	15%	2.6													
<b>Section VI: Settlement Activities</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>2.4</b>													
Appropriately promoted or conducted settlement	31%	21%	21%	14%	14%	2.4													

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: 15					Fall 2023	
	PEER JUDGE					Total	Mean
Hon. Michael S. Mandell	EX	VG	AC	PO	FA		
<b>Section I: Legal Ability</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>4.8</b>
Decisions based on law and facts	10	1	1	0	0	12	4.8
Knowledge of rules of evidence	11	1	1	0	0	13	4.8
Knowledge of rules of procedure	11	1	1	0	0	13	4.8
<b>Section II: Integrity</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>4.8</b>
Unbiased and impartial	11	2	0	0	0	13	4.8
<b>Section III: Communication Skills</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>4.6</b>
Communication skills	10	1	2	0	0	13	4.6
<b>Section IV: Judicial temperament</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>4.7</b>
Conduct that promotes public confidence in the court and judge's ability	10	1	2	0	0	13	4.6
Respectful to all individuals	11	2	0	0	0	13	4.8
<b>Section V: Administrative Performance</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>4.7</b>
Works effectively with other judges	11	3	0	0	0	14	4.8
Works effectively with court personnel	11	1	0	0	0	12	4.9
Efficient management of calendar	10	0	0	2	0	12	4.5
Does a fair share of work	10	0	1	1	0	12	4.6

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: 15					Fall 2023
Hon. Michael S. Mandell	PEER JUDGE					Mean
	EX	VG	AC	PO	FA	
<b>Section I: Legal Ability</b>	<b>84%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>4.8</b>
Decisions based on law and facts	83%	8%	8%	0%	0%	4.8
Knowledge of rules of evidence	85%	8%	8%	0%	0%	4.8
Knowledge of rules of procedure	85%	8%	8%	0%	0%	4.8
<b>Section II: Integrity</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>4.8</b>
Unbiased and impartial	85%	15%	0%	0%	0%	4.8
<b>Section III: Communication Skills</b>	<b>77%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>4.6</b>
Communication skills	77%	8%	15%	0%	0%	4.6
<b>Section IV: Judicial temperament</b>	<b>81%</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>4.7</b>
Conduct that promotes public confidence in the court and judge's ability	77%	8%	15%	0%	0%	4.6
Respectful to all individuals	85%	15%	0%	0%	0%	4.8
<b>Section V: Administrative Performance</b>	<b>84%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>4.7</b>
Works effectively with other judges	79%	21%	0%	0%	0%	4.8
Works effectively with court personnel	92%	8%	0%	0%	0%	4.9
Efficient management of calendar	83%	0%	0%	17%	0%	4.5
Does a fair share of work	83%	0%	8%	8%	0%	4.6

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