

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. Margaret B. LaBianca

2024		
Evaluation Category	Total Survey Responses	Average Percentage of Satisfactory or Above
Legal Ability	60	94%
Integrity	135	96%
Communication Skills	143	96%
Judicial Temperament	149	95%
Administrative Performance	147	97%
Settlement Activities	37	92%

Responses based upon 161 returned survey questionnaires from a distribution of 747 questionnaires. Survey respondents may not necessarily answer all survey questions.

ARIZONA COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW

Superior Court

Name of Judge: **Hon. Margaret B. LaBianca** Total Surveys: **143** Assignment: **Criminal** Cycle: **2021 & 2023**

Name of Judge:	ATTORNEY					47		LIT/WIT/PRO PER					68		JUROR					28		
	SU	VG	SA	PO	UN	Resp	Mean	SU	VG	SA	PO	UN	Resp	Mean	SU	VG	SA	PO	UN	Resp	Mean	
Hon. Margaret B. LaBianca																						
Section I: Legal Ability	23	13	4	2	1	43	3.3															
Legal reasoning ability	26	12	4	3	1	46	3.3															
Knowledge of substantive law	23	14	4	3	1	45	3.2															
Knowledge of rules of evidence	21	10	5	2	1	39	3.2															
Knowledge of rules of procedure	23	14	3	1	2	43	3.3															
Section II: Integrity	24	7	3	0	1	36	3.5	41	8	3	2	2	56	3.5	23	2	2	0	0	26	3.8	
Basic fairness and impartiality	28	10	4	2	1	45	3.4	36	11	7	2	5	61	3.2	24	2	2	0	0	28	3.8	
Equal treatment regardless of race	25	8	4	0	1	38	3.5	41	9	4	1	3	58	3.4	24	2	2	0	0	28	3.8	
Equal treatment regardless of gender	28	8	4	1	1	42	3.5	43	8	2	4	2	59	3.5	22	2	2	0	0	26	3.8	
Equal treatment regardless of religion	20	5	3	0	1	29	3.5	43	6	2	1	1	53	3.7	20	1	2	0	0	23	3.8	
Equal treatment regardless of national origin	23	6	3	0	1	33	3.5	43	7	2	2	2	56	3.6	23	2	2	0	0	27	3.8	
Equal treatment regardless of disability	21	5	3	0	1	30	3.5	40	6	3	2	1	52	3.6	23	1	2	0	0	26	3.8	
Equal treatment regardless of age	26	8	3	0	1	38	3.5	42	8	3	0	1	54	3.7	25	1	2	0	0	28	3.8	
Equal treatment regardless of sexual orientation	20	5	3	0	1	29	3.5	41	7	3	0	1	52	3.7	19	1	2	0	0	22	3.8	
Equal treatment regardless of economic status	27	9	2	1	1	40	3.5	42	8	2	2	1	55	3.6	24	2	2	0	0	28	3.8	
Section III: Communication Skills	27	9	5	0	2	43	3.4	36	13	3	3	2	55	3.4	24	2	2	0	0	28	3.8	
Clear and logical communications																						
Clear and logical oral communications and directions	27	10	6	0	2	45	3.3															
Clear and logical written decisions	23	9	4	1	2	39	3.3															
Gave all parties an adequate opportunity to be heard	32	8	4	0	2	46	3.5															
Explained proceedings (to the jury)								39	13	3	2	2	59	3.4	26	0	2	0	0	28	3.9	
Explained reason for delays								33	12	2	3	1	51	3.4	21	4	2	0	0	27	3.7	
Clearly explained the juror's responsibilities															24	2	2	0	0	28	3.8	
Section IV: Judicial temperament	29	10	4	2	1	46	3.4	40	9	5	2	3	58	3.4	25	1	2	0	0	28	3.8	
Understanding and compassion	27	12	3	3	1	46	3.3	39	7	6	3	3	58	3.3	25	0	2	0	0	27	3.9	
Dignified	29	11	4	1	1	46	3.4	38	11	5	2	2	58	3.4	25	1	2	0	0	28	3.8	
Courteous	31	9	5	0	1	46	3.5	41	10	3	1	3	58	3.5	26	0	2	0	0	28	3.9	
Conduct that promotes public confidence in the court	28	10	3	2	3	46	3.3	40	9	5	3	2	59	3.4	24	2	2	0	0	28	3.8	
Patient	30	10	3	2	1	46	3.4	40	9	5	1	4	59	3.4	26	0	2	0	0	28	3.9	
Section V: Administrative Performance	29	9	5	0	1	45	3.4	43	7	5	1	1	58	3.6	24	2	2	0	0	28	3.8	
Punctual in conducting proceedings	29	10	6	0	1	46	3.4	42	7	7	1	1	58	3.5	23	3	2	0	0	28	3.8	
Maintained proper control of courtroom	31	8	6	0	1	46	3.5	43	8	4	1	1	57	3.6	25	1	2	0	0	28	3.8	
Prompt in making rulings and rendering decisions	26	11	3	1	2	43	3.3															
Was prepared for the proceedings	30	9	4	0	2	45	3.4	44	7	4	2	1	58	3.6	25	1	2	0	0	28	3.8	
Respectful treatment of staff																						
Cooperation with peers																						
Efficient management of calendar	31	9	4	1	1	46	3.5															
Section VI: Settlement Activities	22	8	4	0	3	37	3.2															
Appropriately promoted or conducted settlement	22	8	4	0	3	37	3.2															

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: 143					Assignment: Criminal					Cycle: 2021 & 2023							
	ATTORNEY					47	LIT/WIT/PROPER					68	JUROR					28
Hon. Margaret B. LaBianca	SU	VG	SA	PO	UN	Mean	SU	VG	SA	PO	UN	Mean	SU	VG	SA	PO	UN	Mean
Section I: Legal Ability	54%	29%	9%	5%	3%	3.3												
Legal reasoning ability	57%	26%	9%	7%	2%	3.3												
Knowledge of substantive law	51%	31%	9%	7%	2%	3.2												
Knowledge of rules of evidence	54%	26%	13%	5%	3%	3.2												
Knowledge of rules of procedure	53%	33%	7%	2%	5%	3.3												
Section II: Integrity	67%	20%	9%	1%	3%	3.5	74%	14%	6%	3%	3%	3.5	86%	6%	8%	0%	0%	3.8
Basic fairness and impartiality	62%	22%	9%	4%	2%	3.4	59%	18%	11%	3%	8%	3.2	86%	7%	7%	0%	0%	3.8
Equal treatment regardless of race	66%	21%	11%	0%	3%	3.5	71%	16%	7%	2%	5%	3.4	86%	7%	7%	0%	0%	3.8
Equal treatment regardless of gender	67%	19%	10%	2%	2%	3.5	73%	14%	3%	7%	3%	3.5	85%	8%	8%	0%	0%	3.8
Equal treatment regardless of religion	69%	17%	10%	0%	3%	3.5	81%	11%	4%	2%	2%	3.7	87%	4%	9%	0%	0%	3.8
Equal treatment regardless of national origin	70%	18%	9%	0%	3%	3.5	77%	13%	4%	4%	4%	3.6	85%	7%	7%	0%	0%	3.8
Equal treatment regardless of disability	70%	17%	10%	0%	3%	3.5	77%	12%	6%	4%	2%	3.6	88%	4%	8%	0%	0%	3.8
Equal treatment regardless of age	68%	21%	8%	0%	3%	3.5	78%	15%	6%	0%	2%	3.7	89%	4%	7%	0%	0%	3.8
Equal treatment regardless of sexual orientation	69%	17%	10%	0%	3%	3.5	79%	13%	6%	0%	2%	3.7	86%	5%	9%	0%	0%	3.8
Equal treatment regardless of economic status	68%	23%	5%	3%	3%	3.5	76%	15%	4%	4%	2%	3.6	86%	7%	7%	0%	0%	3.8
Section III: Communication Skills	63%	21%	11%	1%	5%	3.4	65%	23%	5%	5%	3%	3.4	86%	7%	7%	0%	0%	3.8
Clear and logical communications																		
Clear and logical oral communications and directions	60%	22%	13%	0%	4%	3.3												
Clear and logical written decisions	59%	23%	10%	3%	5%	3.3												
Gave all parties an adequate opportunity to be heard	70%	17%	9%	0%	4%	3.5												
Explained proceedings (to the jury)							66%	22%	5%	3%	3%	3.4	93%	0%	7%	0%	0%	3.9
Explained reason for delays							65%	24%	4%	6%	2%	3.4	78%	15%	7%	0%	0%	3.7
Clearly explained the juror's responsibilities													86%	7%	7%	0%	0%	3.8
Section IV: Judicial temperament	63%	23%	8%	3%	3%	3.4	68%	16%	8%	3%	5%	3.4	91%	2%	7%	0%	0%	3.8
Understanding and compassion	59%	26%	7%	7%	2%	3.3	67%	12%	10%	5%	5%	3.3	93%	0%	7%	0%	0%	3.9
Dignified	63%	24%	9%	2%	2%	3.4	66%	19%	9%	3%	3%	3.4	89%	4%	7%	0%	0%	3.8
Courteous	67%	20%	11%	0%	2%	3.5	71%	17%	5%	2%	5%	3.5	93%	0%	7%	0%	0%	3.9
Conduct that promotes public confidence in the court	61%	22%	7%	4%	7%	3.3	68%	15%	8%	5%	3%	3.4	86%	7%	7%	0%	0%	3.8
Patient	65%	22%	7%	4%	2%	3.4	68%	15%	8%	2%	7%	3.4	93%	0%	7%	0%	0%	3.9
Section V: Administrative Performance	65%	21%	10%	1%	3%	3.4	75%	13%	9%	2%	2%	3.6	87%	6%	7%	0%	0%	3.8
Punctual in conducting proceedings	63%	22%	13%	0%	2%	3.4	72%	12%	12%	2%	2%	3.5	82%	11%	7%	0%	0%	3.8
Maintained proper control of courtroom	67%	17%	13%	0%	2%	3.5	75%	14%	7%	2%	2%	3.6	89%	4%	7%	0%	0%	3.8
Prompt in making rulings and rendering decisions	60%	26%	7%	2%	5%	3.3												
Was prepared for the proceedings	67%	20%	9%	0%	4%	3.4	76%	12%	7%	3%	2%	3.6	89%	4%	7%	0%	0%	3.8
Respectful treatment of staff																		
Cooperation with peers																		
Efficient management of calendar	67%	20%	9%	2%	2%	3.5												
Section VI: Settlement Activities	59%	22%	11%	0%	8%	3.2												
Appropriately promoted or conducted settlement	59%	22%	11%	0%	8%	3.2												

UN=Unacceptable, PO=Poor,
 SA=Satisfactory, VG=Very Good,
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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: 18					Fall 2023	
	PEER JUDGE					Total	Mean
Hon. Margaret B. LaBianca	EX	VG	AC	PO	FA		
Section I: Legal Ability	15	2	0	0	0	17	4.9
Decisions based on law and facts	15	2	0	0	0	17	4.9
Knowledge of rules of evidence	15	2	0	0	0	17	4.9
Knowledge of rules of procedure	15	2	0	0	0	17	4.9
Section II: Integrity	17	0	0	0	0	17	5.0
Unbiased and impartial	17	0	0	0	0	17	5.0
Section III: Communication Skills	16	1	0	0	0	17	4.9
Communication skills	16	1	0	0	0	17	4.9
Section IV: Judicial temperament	16	1	0	0	0	17	4.9
Conduct that promotes public confidence in the court and judge's ability	16	1	0	0	0	17	4.9
Respectful to all individuals	16	1	0	0	0	17	4.9
Section V: Administrative Performance	16	0	0	0	0	16	5.0
Works effectively with other judges	16	1	0	0	0	17	4.9
Works effectively with court personnel	15	0	0	0	0	15	5.0
Efficient management of calendar	16	0	0	0	0	16	5.0
Does a fair share of work	16	0	0	0	0	16	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: 18					Fall 2023
Hon. Margaret B. LaBianca	PEER JUDGE					Mean
	EX	VG	AC	PO	FA	
Section I: Legal Ability	88%	12%	0%	0%	0%	4.9
Decisions based on law and facts	88%	12%	0%	0%	0%	4.9
Knowledge of rules of evidence	88%	12%	0%	0%	0%	4.9
Knowledge of rules of procedure	88%	12%	0%	0%	0%	4.9
Section II: Integrity	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5.0
Unbiased and impartial	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5.0
Section III: Communication Skills	94%	6%	0%	0%	0%	4.9
Communication skills	94%	6%	0%	0%	0%	4.9
Section IV: Judicial temperament	94%	6%	0%	0%	0%	4.9
Conduct that promotes public confidence in the court and judge's ability	94%	6%	0%	0%	0%	4.9
Respectful to all individuals	94%	6%	0%	0%	0%	4.9
Section V: Administrative Performance	98%	2%	0%	0%	0%	5.0
Works effectively with other judges	94%	6%	0%	0%	0%	4.9
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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Category summaries are averages and may not add up due to rounding.

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