

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. Gary J. Cohen

2024		
Evaluation Category	Total Survey Responses	Average Percentage of Satisfactory or Above
Legal Ability	41	98%
Integrity	62	99%
Communication Skills	74	98%
Judicial Temperament	78	96%
Administrative Performance	70	99%
Settlement Activities	16	94%

Responses based upon 83 returned survey questionnaires from a distribution of 348 questionnaires. Survey respondents may not necessarily answer all survey questions.

ARIZONA COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW

Superior Court

Name of Judge:	Total Surveys: 79					Assignment: Civil					Cycle: Retention Review													
Hon. Gary J. Cohen	ATTORNEY					LIT/WIT/PRO PER					JUROR													
	SU	VG	SA	PO	UN	41	Resp	Mean	SU	VG	SA	PO	UN	18	Resp	Mean	SU	VG	SA	PO	UN	20	Resp	Mean
Section I: Legal Ability	23	9	4	0	1	37	3.4																	
Legal reasoning ability	22	11	4	0	1	38	3.4																	
Knowledge of substantive law	23	10	4	0	1	38	3.4																	
Knowledge of rules of evidence	22	7	3	0	1	33	3.5																	
Knowledge of rules of procedure	24	9	4	0	1	38	3.4																	
Section II: Integrity	20	3	1	0	0	24	3.8	12	3	1	0	0	16	3.7	17	1	0	1	0	18	3.9			
Basic fairness and impartiality	22	10	3	0	1	36	3.4	12	4	1	0	0	17	3.6	16	1	0	1	0	18	3.8			
Equal treatment regardless of race	22	1	1	0	0	24	3.9	12	3	1	0	0	16	3.7	17	1	0	1	0	19	3.8			
Equal treatment regardless of gender	22	5	2	1	0	30	3.6	12	3	1	0	0	16	3.7	18	1	0	0	0	19	3.9			
Equal treatment regardless of religion	18	1	0	0	0	19	3.9	11	3	1	0	0	15	3.7	17	1	0	0	0	18	3.9			
Equal treatment regardless of national origin	19	1	0	0	0	20	4.0	12	3	1	0	0	16	3.7	17	1	0	1	0	19	3.8			
Equal treatment regardless of disability	19	1	0	0	0	20	4.0	11	3	1	0	0	15	3.7	18	1	0	0	0	19	3.9			
Equal treatment regardless of age	19	3	1	0	0	23	3.8	12	3	1	0	0	16	3.7	17	1	0	1	0	19	3.8			
Equal treatment regardless of sexual orientation	19	1	0	0	0	20	4.0	12	2	1	0	0	15	3.7	15	1	0	0	0	16	3.9			
Equal treatment regardless of economic status	20	1	1	0	0	22	3.9	11	2	1	0	0	14	3.7	17	1	0	1	0	19	3.8			
Section III: Communication Skills	23	9	4	0	1	37	3.4	11	3	1	0	0	15	3.7	18	1	0	0	0	19	3.9			
Clear and logical communications																								
Clear and logical oral communications and directions	22	9	4	1	1	37	3.4																	
Clear and logical written decisions	20	11	4	0	1	36	3.4																	
Gave all parties an adequate opportunity to be heard	26	6	4	0	1	37	3.5																	
Explained proceedings (to the jury)								13	4	0	0	0	17	3.8	18	1	0	0	0	19	3.9			
Explained reason for delays								9	2	1	0	0	12	3.7	17	1	1	0	0	19	3.8			
Clearly explained the juror's responsibilities															18	1	0	0	0	19	3.9			
Section IV: Judicial temperament	21	9	4	1	2	37	3.3	14	4	0	0	0	18	3.8	17	2	0	0	0	19	3.9			
Understanding and compassion	18	11	5	1	1	36	3.2	14	4	0	0	0	18	3.8	18	1	0	0	0	19	3.9			
Dignified	21	10	4	0	2	37	3.3	14	4	0	0	0	18	3.8	18	1	0	0	0	19	3.9			
Courteous	23	8	3	1	2	37	3.3	13	3	0	0	0	16	3.8	18	1	0	0	0	19	3.9			
Conduct that promotes public confidence in the court	25	7	2	1	2	37	3.4	14	3	1	0	0	18	3.7	17	1	1	0	0	19	3.8			
Patient	17	10	6	3	1	37	3.1	14	4	0	0	0	18	3.8	15	4	0	0	0	19	3.8			
Section V: Administrative Performance	25	6	3	1	0	35	3.6	9	4	0	0	0	13	3.7	17	2	0	0	0	18	3.9			
Punctual in conducting proceedings	25	7	4	0	0	36	3.6	9	4	0	0	0	13	3.7	15	3	0	0	0	18	3.8			
Maintained proper control of courtroom	26	7	2	1	0	36	3.6	8	4	0	0	0	12	3.7	18	1	0	0	0	19	3.9			
Prompt in making rulings and rendering decisions	25	5	5	0	0	35	3.6																	
Was prepared for the proceedings	27	5	3	1	0	36	3.6	10	4	0	0	0	14	3.7	17	1	0	0	0	18	3.9			
Respectful treatment of staff																								
Cooperation with peers																								
Efficient management of calendar	22	8	2	1	1	34	3.4																	
Section VI: Settlement Activities	12	1	2	1	0	16	3.5																	
Appropriately promoted or conducted settlement	12	1	2	1	0	16	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 02/2023 - 09/2023
Juror surveys from 9/2021 - 9/2023

ARIZONA COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW

Superior Court

Name of Judge:	Total Surveys: 79					Assignment: Civil					Cycle: Retention Review								
Hon. Gary J. Cohen	ATTORNEY					41	LIT/WIT/PROPER					18	JUROR					20	
	SU	VG	SA	PO	UN	Mean	SU	VG	SA	PO	UN	Mean	SU	VG	SA	PO	UN	Mean	
Section I: Legal Ability	62%	25%	10%	0%	3%	3.4													
Legal reasoning ability	58%	29%	11%	0%	3%	3.4													
Knowledge of substantive law	61%	26%	11%	0%	3%	3.4													
Knowledge of rules of evidence	67%	21%	9%	0%	3%	3.5													
Knowledge of rules of procedure	63%	24%	11%	0%	3%	3.4													
Section II: Integrity	84%	11%	4%	0%	0%	3.8	75%	19%	6%	0%	0%	3.7	92%	5%	0%	3%	0%	3.9	
Basic fairness and impartiality	61%	28%	8%	0%	3%	3.4	71%	24%	6%	0%	0%	3.6	89%	6%	0%	6%	0%	3.8	
Equal treatment regardless of race	92%	4%	4%	0%	0%	3.9	75%	19%	6%	0%	0%	3.7	89%	5%	0%	5%	0%	3.8	
Equal treatment regardless of gender	73%	17%	7%	3%	0%	3.6	75%	19%	6%	0%	0%	3.7	95%	5%	0%	0%	0%	3.9	
Equal treatment regardless of religion	95%	5%	0%	0%	0%	3.9	73%	20%	7%	0%	0%	3.7	94%	6%	0%	0%	0%	3.9	
Equal treatment regardless of national origin	95%	5%	0%	0%	0%	4.0	75%	19%	6%	0%	0%	3.7	89%	5%	0%	5%	0%	3.8	
Equal treatment regardless of disability	95%	5%	0%	0%	0%	4.0	73%	20%	7%	0%	0%	3.7	95%	5%	0%	0%	0%	3.9	
Equal treatment regardless of age	83%	13%	4%	0%	0%	3.8	75%	19%	6%	0%	0%	3.7	89%	5%	0%	5%	0%	3.8	
Equal treatment regardless of sexual orientation	95%	5%	0%	0%	0%	4.0	80%	13%	7%	0%	0%	3.7	94%	6%	0%	0%	0%	3.9	
Equal treatment regardless of economic status	91%	5%	5%	0%	0%	3.9	79%	14%	7%	0%	0%	3.7	89%	5%	0%	5%	0%	3.8	
Section III: Communication Skills	62%	24%	11%	1%	3%	3.4	76%	21%	3%	0%	0%	3.7	93%	5%	2%	0%	0%	3.9	
Clear and logical communications																			
Clear and logical oral communications and directions	59%	24%	11%	3%	3%	3.4													
Clear and logical written decisions	56%	31%	11%	0%	3%	3.4													
Gave all parties an adequate opportunity to be heard	70%	16%	11%	0%	3%	3.5													
Explained proceedings (to the jury)							76%	24%	0%	0%	0%	3.8	95%	5%	0%	0%	0%	3.9	
Explained reason for delays							75%	17%	8%	0%	0%	3.7	89%	5%	5%	0%	0%	3.8	
Clearly explained the juror's responsibilities													95%	5%	0%	0%	0%	3.9	
Section IV: Judicial temperament	57%	25%	11%	3%	4%	3.3	78%	20%	1%	0%	0%	3.8	91%	8%	1%	0%	0%	3.9	
Understanding and compassion	50%	31%	14%	3%	3%	3.2	78%	22%	0%	0%	0%	3.8	95%	5%	0%	0%	0%	3.9	
Dignified	57%	27%	11%	0%	5%	3.3	78%	22%	0%	0%	0%	3.8	95%	5%	0%	0%	0%	3.9	
Courteous	62%	22%	8%	3%	5%	3.3	81%	19%	0%	0%	0%	3.8	95%	5%	0%	0%	0%	3.9	
Conduct that promotes public confidence in the court	68%	19%	5%	3%	5%	3.4	78%	17%	6%	0%	0%	3.7	89%	5%	5%	0%	0%	3.8	
Patient	46%	27%	16%	8%	3%	3.1	78%	22%	0%	0%	0%	3.8	79%	21%	0%	0%	0%	3.8	
Section V: Administrative Performance	71%	18%	9%	2%	1%	3.6	69%	31%	0%	0%	0%	3.7	91%	9%	0%	0%	0%	3.9	
Punctual in conducting proceedings	69%	19%	11%	0%	0%	3.6	69%	31%	0%	0%	0%	3.7	83%	17%	0%	0%	0%	3.8	
Maintained proper control of courtroom	72%	19%	6%	3%	0%	3.6	67%	33%	0%	0%	0%	3.7	95%	5%	0%	0%	0%	3.9	
Prompt in making rulings and rendering decisions	71%	14%	14%	0%	0%	3.6													
Was prepared for the proceedings	75%	14%	8%	3%	0%	3.6	71%	29%	0%	0%	0%	3.7	94%	6%	0%	0%	0%	3.9	
Respectful treatment of staff																			
Cooperation with peers																			
Efficient management of calendar	65%	24%	6%	3%	3%	3.4													
Section VI: Settlement Activities	75%	6%	13%	6%	0%	3.5													
Appropriately promoted or conducted settlement	75%	6%	13%	6%	0%	3.5													

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 users from 02/2023 - 09/2023
 Juror surveys from 9/2021 - 9/2023

ARIZONA COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW

Superior Court

Name of Judge:	Total Surveys: 4					Fall 2023	
	PEER JUDGE					Total	Mean
Hon. Gary J. Cohen	EX	VG	AC	PO	FA		
Section I: Legal Ability	2	2	0	0	0	4	4.5
Decisions based on law and facts	2	2	0	0	0	4	4.5
Knowledge of rules of evidence	2	2	0	0	0	4	4.5
Knowledge of rules of procedure	2	2	0	0	0	4	4.5
Section II: Integrity	3	0	1	0	0	4	4.5
Unbiased and impartial	3	0	1	0	0	4	4.5
Section III: Communication Skills	1	1	2	0	0	4	3.8
Communication skills	1	1	2	0	0	4	3.8
Section IV: Judicial temperament	1	2	2	0	0	4	3.9
Conduct that promotes public confidence in the court and judge's ability	1	1	2	0	0	4	3.8
Respectful to all individuals	1	2	1	0	0	4	4.0
Section V: Administrative Performance	2	1	1	0	0	3	4.3
Works effectively with other judges	2	1	1	0	0	4	4.3
Works effectively with court personnel	0	1	1	0	0	2	3.5
Efficient management of calendar	1	1	0	0	0	2	4.5
Does a fair share of work	3	1	0	0	0	4	4.8

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. Gary J. Cohen	EX	VG	AC	PO	FA	
Section I: Legal Ability	50%	50%	0%	0%	0%	4.5
Decisions based on law and facts	50%	50%	0%	0%	0%	4.5
Knowledge of rules of evidence	50%	50%	0%	0%	0%	4.5
Knowledge of rules of procedure	50%	50%	0%	0%	0%	4.5
Section II: Integrity	75%	0%	25%	0%	0%	4.5
Unbiased and impartial	75%	0%	25%	0%	0%	4.5
Section III: Communication Skills	25%	25%	50%	0%	0%	3.8
Communication skills	25%	25%	50%	0%	0%	3.8
Section IV: Judicial temperament	25%	38%	38%	0%	0%	3.9
Conduct that promotes public confidence in the court and judge's ability	25%	25%	50%	0%	0%	3.8
Respectful to all individuals	25%	50%	25%	0%	0%	4.0
Section V: Administrative Performance	50%	33%	17%	0%	0%	4.3
Works effectively with other judges	50%	25%	25%	0%	0%	4.3
Works effectively with court personnel	0%	50%	50%	0%	0%	3.5
Efficient management of calendar	50%	50%	0%	0%	0%	4.5
Does a fair share of work	75%	25%	0%	0%	0%	4.8

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