

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. David E. McDowell**

<b>2024</b>		
<b>Evaluation Category</b>	Total Survey Responses	Average Percentage of Satisfactory or Above
Legal Ability	46	96%
Integrity	108	89%
Communication Skills	132	85%
Judicial Temperament	138	86%
Administrative Performance	139	93%
Settlement Activities	19	89%

Responses based upon 152 returned survey questionnaires from a distribution of 652 questionnaires. Survey respondents may not necessarily answer all survey questions.

ARIZONA COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW

Superior Court

Name of Judge:	Total Surveys: 130					Assignment: Family					Cycle: Retention Review										
Hon. David E. McDowell	ATTORNEY					LIT/WIT/PRO PER					JUROR										
	SU	VG	SA	PO	UN	34 Resp	Mean	SU	VG	SA	PO	UN	96 Resp	Mean	SU	VG	SA	PO	UN	0 Resp	Mean
<b>Section I: Legal Ability</b>	12	10	7	1	1	30	3.0														
Legal reasoning ability	14	7	6	1	2	30	3.0														
Knowledge of substantive law	11	11	7	1	0	30	3.1														
Knowledge of rules of evidence	11	10	7	1	0	29	3.1														
Knowledge of rules of procedure	10	13	6	2	1	32	2.9														
<b>Section II: Integrity</b>	13	5	3	1	1	22	3.2	41	17	3	4	5	71	3.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Basic fairness and impartiality	11	9	4	3	5	32	2.6	37	27	6	7	13	90	2.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Equal treatment regardless of race	14	4	1	1	0	20	3.6	45	16	3	5	5	74	3.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Equal treatment regardless of gender	14	6	5	1	3	29	2.9	46	21	3	10	8	88	3.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Equal treatment regardless of religion	12	3	3	0	0	18	3.5	41	12	3	1	1	58	3.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Equal treatment regardless of national origin	12	3	3	0	0	18	3.5	41	14	3	1	3	62	3.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Equal treatment regardless of disability	13	3	2	1	1	20	3.3	37	11	4	2	3	57	3.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Equal treatment regardless of age	14	5	2	1	0	22	3.5	42	20	5	1	4	72	3.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Equal treatment regardless of sexual orientation	11	2	2	0	0	15	3.6	36	13	2	2	3	56	3.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Equal treatment regardless of economic status	15	6	2	2	2	27	3.1	43	20	2	5	8	78	3.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
<b>Section III: Communication Skills</b>	12	8	3	4	3	30	2.8	43	20	7	6	7	83	3.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Clear and logical communications																					
Clear and logical oral communications and directions	12	9	3	3	3	30	2.8														
Clear and logical written decisions	12	8	2	5	2	29	2.8														
Gave all parties an adequate opportunity to be heard	13	8	4	3	3	31	2.8														
Explained proceedings (to the jury)								48	22	7	7	7	91	3.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Explained reason for delays								38	17	7	5	7	74	3.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Clearly explained the juror's responsibilities															0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
<b>Section IV: Judicial temperament</b>	13	8	5	3	2	32	2.8	50	20	6	7	7	90	3.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Understanding and compassion	11	7	5	5	3	31	2.6	47	19	8	7	12	93	2.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Dignified	14	8	6	2	2	32	2.9	49	21	6	7	7	90	3.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Courteous	13	8	6	3	2	32	2.8	53	20	7	7	4	91	3.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Conduct that promotes public confidence in the court	12	10	2	5	3	32	2.7	49	15	6	10	9	89	3.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Patient	14	6	8	2	2	32	2.9	50	23	5	4	4	86	3.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
<b>Section V: Administrative Performance</b>	15	8	6	1	1	32	3.1	51	20	11	4	4	91	3.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Punctual in conducting proceedings	15	8	8	0	1	32	3.1	55	18	12	5	4	94	3.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Maintained proper control of courtroom	15	8	6	2	1	32	3.1	52	18	13	3	2	88	3.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Prompt in making rulings and rendering decisions	15	8	6	1	1	31	3.1														
Was prepared for the proceedings	17	6	6	2	1	32	3.1	47	24	9	3	7	90	3.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Respectful treatment of staff																					
Cooperation with peers																					
Efficient management of calendar	14	9	6	0	2	31	3.1														
<b>Section VI: Settlement Activities</b>	8	7	2	0	2	19	3.0														
Appropriately promoted or conducted settlement	8	7	2	0	2	19	3.0														

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: 130					Assignment: Family					Cycle: Retention Review							
	ATTORNEY					34	LIT/WIT/PRO PER					96	JUROR					0
Hon. David E. McDowell	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>38%</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>3.0</b>												
Legal reasoning ability	47%	23%	20%	3%	7%	3.0												
Knowledge of substantive law	37%	37%	23%	3%	0%	3.1												
Knowledge of rules of evidence	38%	34%	24%	3%	0%	3.1												
Knowledge of rules of procedure	31%	41%	19%	6%	3%	2.9												
<b>Section II: Integrity</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0.0</b>
Basic fairness and impartiality	34%	28%	13%	9%	16%	2.6	41%	30%	7%	8%	14%	2.8	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0
Equal treatment regardless of race	70%	20%	5%	5%	0%	3.6	61%	22%	4%	7%	7%	3.2	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0
Equal treatment regardless of gender	48%	21%	17%	3%	10%	2.9	52%	24%	3%	11%	9%	3.0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0
Equal treatment regardless of religion	67%	17%	17%	0%	0%	3.5	71%	21%	5%	2%	2%	3.6	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0
Equal treatment regardless of national origin	67%	17%	17%	0%	0%	3.5	66%	23%	5%	2%	5%	3.4	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0
Equal treatment regardless of disability	65%	15%	10%	5%	5%	3.3	65%	19%	7%	4%	5%	3.4	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0
Equal treatment regardless of age	64%	23%	9%	5%	0%	3.5	58%	28%	7%	1%	6%	3.3	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0
Equal treatment regardless of sexual orientation	73%	13%	13%	0%	0%	3.6	64%	23%	4%	4%	5%	3.4	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0
Equal treatment regardless of economic status	56%	22%	7%	7%	7%	3.1	55%	26%	3%	6%	10%	3.1	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0
<b>Section III: Communication Skills</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0.0</b>
Clear and logical communications																		
Clear and logical oral communications and directions	40%	30%	10%	10%	10%	2.8												
Clear and logical written decisions	41%	28%	7%	17%	7%	2.8												
Gave all parties an adequate opportunity to be heard	42%	26%	13%	10%	10%	2.8												
Explained proceedings (to the jury)							53%	24%	8%	8%	8%	3.1	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0
Explained reason for delays							51%	23%	9%	7%	9%	3.0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0
Clearly explained the juror's responsibilities													0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0
<b>Section IV: Judicial temperament</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0.0</b>
Understanding and compassion	35%	23%	16%	16%	10%	2.6	51%	20%	9%	8%	13%	2.9	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0
Dignified	44%	25%	19%	6%	6%	2.9	54%	23%	7%	8%	8%	3.1	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0
Courteous	41%	25%	19%	9%	6%	2.8	58%	22%	8%	8%	4%	3.2	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0
Conduct that promotes public confidence in the court	38%	31%	6%	16%	9%	2.7	55%	17%	7%	11%	10%	3.0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0
Patient	44%	19%	25%	6%	6%	2.9	58%	27%	6%	5%	5%	3.3	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0
<b>Section V: Administrative Performance</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>57%</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0.0</b>
Punctual in conducting proceedings	47%	25%	25%	0%	3%	3.1	59%	19%	13%	5%	4%	3.2	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0
Maintained proper control of courtroom	47%	25%	19%	6%	3%	3.1	59%	20%	15%	3%	2%	3.3	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0
Prompt in making rulings and rendering decisions	48%	26%	19%	3%	3%	3.1												
Was prepared for the proceedings	53%	19%	19%	6%	3%	3.1	52%	27%	10%	3%	8%	3.1	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0.0
Respectful treatment of staff																		
Cooperation with peers																		
Efficient management of calendar	45%	29%	19%	0%	6%	3.1												
<b>Section VI: Settlement Activities</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>3.0</b>												
Appropriately promoted or conducted settlement	42%	37%	11%	0%	11%	3.0												

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

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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: 22					Fall 2023	
	PEER JUDGE					Total	Mean
Hon. David E. McDowell	EX	VG	AC	PO	FA		
<b>Section I: Legal Ability</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>4.9</b>
Decisions based on law and facts	14	1	0	0	0	15	4.9
Knowledge of rules of evidence	15	1	0	0	0	16	4.9
Knowledge of rules of procedure	15	1	0	0	0	16	4.9
<b>Section II: Integrity</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>4.9</b>
Unbiased and impartial	14	1	0	0	0	15	4.9
<b>Section III: Communication Skills</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>4.9</b>
Communication skills	18	1	0	0	0	19	4.9
<b>Section IV: Judicial temperament</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>4.9</b>
Conduct that promotes public confidence in the court and judge's ability	15	1	0	0	0	16	4.9
Respectful to all individuals	16	1	0	0	0	17	4.9
<b>Section V: Administrative Performance</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>4.9</b>
Works effectively with other judges	18	0	1	0	0	19	4.9
Works effectively with court personnel	14	0	0	0	0	14	5.0
Efficient management of calendar	13	2	0	0	0	15	4.9
Does a fair share of work	17	0	0	0	0	17	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: 22					Fall 2023
Hon. David E. McDowell	PEER JUDGE					Mean
	EX	VG	AC	PO	FA	
<b>Section I: Legal Ability</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>4.9</b>
Decisions based on law and facts	93%	7%	0%	0%	0%	4.9
Knowledge of rules of evidence	94%	6%	0%	0%	0%	4.9
Knowledge of rules of procedure	94%	6%	0%	0%	0%	4.9
<b>Section II: Integrity</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>4.9</b>
Unbiased and impartial	93%	7%	0%	0%	0%	4.9
<b>Section III: Communication Skills</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>4.9</b>
Communication skills	95%	5%	0%	0%	0%	4.9
<b>Section IV: Judicial temperament</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>4.9</b>
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
<b>Section V: Administrative Performance</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>4.9</b>
Works effectively with other judges	95%	0%	5%	0%	0%	4.9
Works effectively with court personnel	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5.0
Efficient management of calendar	87%	13%	0%	0%	0%	4.9
Does a fair share of work	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5.0

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EX=Excellent

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