



Supreme Court of Illinois

Judicial Performance Evaluation Program

Report for the Honorable A

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Supreme Court of Illinois
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 Summary Report for Hon. A

This Summary Report offers a one-page overview of results from your Supreme Court of Illinois Judicial Performance Evaluation (JPE). This overview consists of two sections. First, the *Survey Participants* table displays the number of eligible attorney and court personnel evaluators you nominated, the number of evaluations completed by attorneys and court personnel, and your attorney and court personnel response rates. Second, the *Evaluation Summary* section displays results by performance area and as a total score. Each performance area score takes into account ratings on different subsets of survey items that are detailed in the attached Performance Area Report. The total score takes into account all 39 items in the attorney evaluation and all 24 items in the court personnel evaluation. The bars display **your average score (in gold)** and the **average score across all judges (in dark blue)** who have participated in the revised JPE program since 2021. Average scores range from 1.00 (lowest) to 5.00 (highest). The columns on the right side of the *Evaluation Summary* display the range of scores you received, indicating your lowest and highest score by performance area and in total. For more information about respondent eligibility and score calculations, refer to the Appendix.

Survey Participants

	<u>Attorneys</u>	<u>Court Personnel</u>
Number of Eligible Participants	112	21
Number of Completed Evaluations	38	6
Response Rate	34%	29%

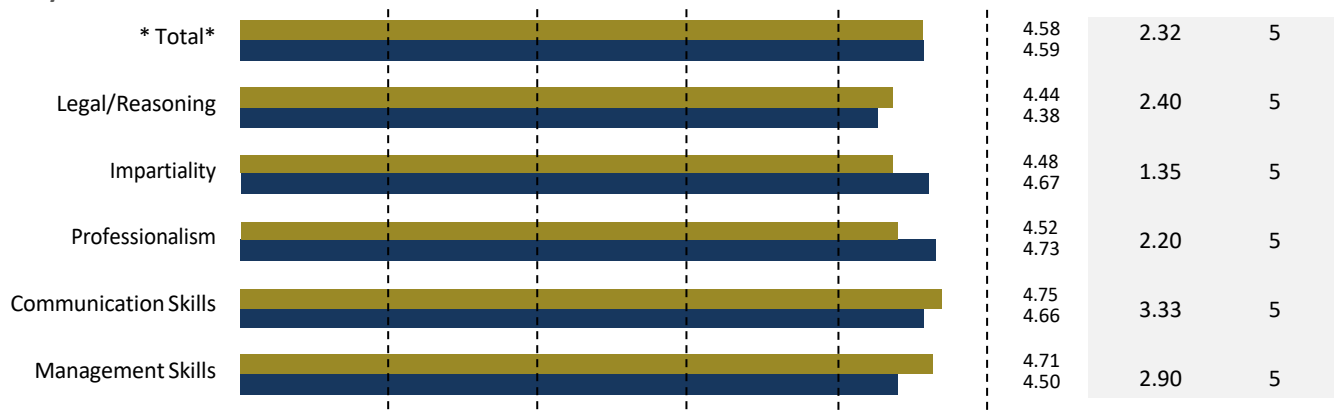
You are one of **195 judges** to participate in the revised Supreme Court of Illinois Judicial Performance Evaluation Program to date.

Evaluation Summary

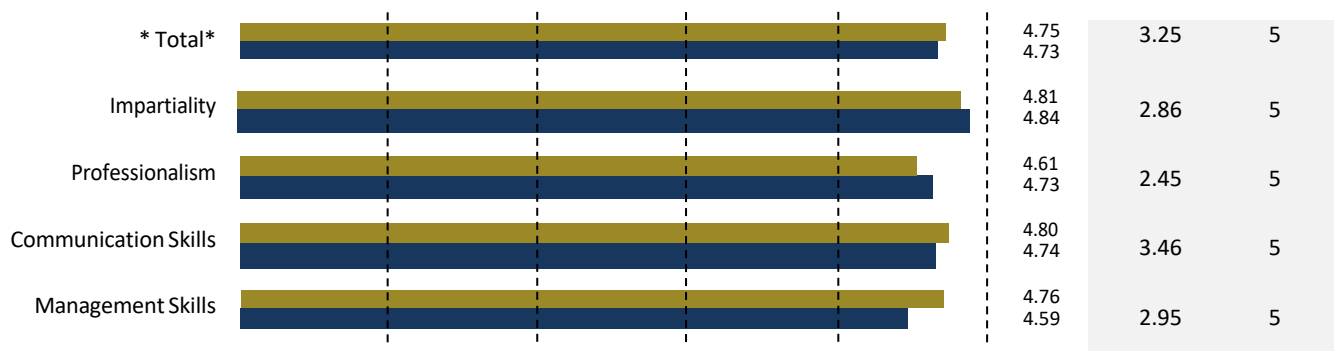
■ Your Score
 ■ Score For All Judges

Average Scores

Attorney Evaluators



Court Personnel Evaluators





Supreme Court of Illinois

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Performance Area Report for Hon. A

How to Read the Performance Area Report

This Performance Area Report is a multiple-page description of the results from your Supreme Court of Illinois Judicial Performance Evaluation (JPE). This report itemizes your results by performance area.

This Performance Area Report consists of five sections. Each section corresponds with one of the five performance areas in your JPE: (1) legal skills and reasoning ability, (2) impartiality, (3) communication skills, (4) professionalism, and (5) management skills.

For each performance area, all items included in the attorney survey and court personnel survey are listed. Next to each survey item, results are provided as average ratings: first, your rating is averaged across all the attorney respondents or court personnel respondents who evaluated your performance on that survey item; then, the average rating on that item across all Illinois judges who have participated in the JPE program to date. The third and fourth columns display the range of ratings you received from respondents, indicating your lowest and highest ratings on each item.

Additionally, all comments provided by respondents about your judicial performance are collated verbatim. Comments from attorneys and from court personnel respondents are listed separately for your review.

If too few attorney or court personnel respondents completed your judicial performance evaluation, no data are reported and an "N/A" will appear in the corresponding results sections. For more information, refer to the "Insufficient Data" section of the Appendix.

For more information about how survey items were constructed and how rating scales were used in the survey, refer to the "Evaluation Questions and Ratings" section of the Appendix.



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Report on Legal Skills and Reasoning Ability

	Average Rating		Range of Ratings You Received	
	You	All Judges	Lowest	Highest
<u>Attorney Evaluators</u>				
[LA1] The judge's ruling cited the applicable substantive law.	4.22	4.13	3	5
[LA2] The judge adhered to the appropriate rules of procedure.	4.60	4.55	4	5
[LA3] The judge applied rules of evidence relevant to the case.	4.50	4.46	2	5
[LA4] The judge provided a proper legal basis for a decision.	4.36	4.29	3	5
[LA5] The judge drew a conclusion about the case that was consistent with the evidence presented.	4.41	4.39	1	5
[LA6] The judge's decision followed logically from the evidence presented.	4.68	4.53	3	5
[LA7] The judge applied the law to the facts in the case.	4.55	4.53	3	5
[LA8] The judge quickly resolved problems that arose during the proceedings.	4.30	4.20	1	5
[LA9] The judge rendered a well-reasoned decision.	4.41	4.33	2	5



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Legal Skills and Reasoning Ability Comments

Attorney Evaluators

I do not believe the judge has a strong background in commercial/civil practice and could use some work in that regard.

It seems to me that the Judge stays current on recently reported Appellate court decisions.

She is lacking in legal ability and intellect as a starting point, so the results are generally what you would expect given that background.

Judge A did not, at the time of my case, have significant experience in family law, but handled this post-dissolution case well.

Judge A has continued to grow in both her legal and reasoning ability.

Does not seem confident in above areas.



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Report on Impartiality

	Average Rating		Range of Ratings You Received	
	You	All Judges	Lowest	Highest
<u>Attorney Evaluators</u>				
[IA1] The judge weighed the evidence impartially.	4.40	4.45	1	5
[IA2] The judge carefully considered arguments from both sides before ruling.	4.55	4.58	2	5
[IA3] The judge conducted the proceeding in a neutral manner.	4.60	4.63	2	5
[IA4] The judge appeared to decide the outcome of the case after all evidence was presented.	4.39	4.48	1	5
[IA5] The judge made a decision after hearing all of the arguments.	4.49	4.53	2	5
[IA6] The judge, when necessary, restricted an attorney's presentation.	4.49	4.61	3	5
[IA7] The judge's decision was based on relevant information. §	4.30	4.62	2	5
[IA8] The judge treated the parties equally.	4.53	4.66	2	5
[IA9] The judge's decision was fair (i.e., not influenced by personal characteristics of the parties, such as race, ethnicity, gender, age, socioeconomic status). §	4.65	4.90	3	5
[IA10] The judge appeared to maintain an open mind during proceedings.	4.44	4.56	2	5

Court Personnel Evaluators

[IC1] The judge conducted the proceeding in a neutral manner.	4.76	4.78	2	5
[IC2] The judge, when necessary, restricted an attorney's presentation.*	4.78	4.80	2	5
[IC3] The judge treated the parties equally.	4.82	4.84	3	5
[IC4] The judge's decision was fair (i.e., not influenced by personal characteristics of the parties, such as race, ethnicity, gender, age, socioeconomic status). §	4.93	4.95	3	5
[IC5] The judge appeared to maintain an open mind during proceedings.	4.72	4.76	2	5

§ For this item, any average rating lower than "5" means that one or more respondents found your decision(s) to be based on irrelevant information or unduly influenced by personal characteristics of the parties. See "Impartiality Comments" section for details.



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Impartiality Comments

Attorney Evaluators

A. General Comments

Judge A appears to favor one side in a case, which is ok if it is your side.

Judge A kept an open mind about the issue most of the time before she came to a decision. Sometimes her rulings do not always appear to be impartial.

B. Comments related to irrelevant information and personal characteristic influences §

(None)

Court Personnel Evaluators

A. General Comments

Judge A bent over backwards to allow both parties to present all materials and arguments they deemed relevant.

Judge A does not always see both sides of an issue.

B. Comments related to personal characteristic influences §

(None)



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Report on Professionalism

Average Rating Range of Ratings
 You Received

You All Judges Lowest Highest

Attorney Evaluators

[PA1] The judge effectively maintained decorum in the courtroom.	4.50	4.62	4	5
[PA2] The judge addressed individuals (e.g., attorneys, court staff, litigants, public, witnesses) respectfully in the courtroom.	4.74	4.76	3	5
[PA3] The judge was attentive to court proceedings.	4.41	4.71	3	5
[PA4] The judge carefully reviewed evidentiary materials in the case.	4.49	4.53	3	5
[PA5] The judge was prepared for court.	4.44	4.78	4	5
[PA6] The judge maintained a professional demeanor in the courtroom.	4.55	4.76	3	5

Court Personnel Evaluators

[PC1] The judge effectively maintained decorum in the courtroom.	4.70	4.72	3	5
[PC2] The judge addressed individuals (e.g., attorneys, court staff, litigants, public, witnesses) respectfully in the courtroom.	4.69	4.83	3	5
[PC3] The judge treated court employees respectfully regardless of position.	4.65	4.79	2	5
[PC4] The judge appeared to be attentive to court proceedings.	4.67	4.73	2	5
[PC5] The judge was prepared for court.	4.71	4.86	3	5
[PC6] The judge maintained a professional demeanor in the courtroom.	4.67	4.84	2	5



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Professionalism Comments

Attorney Evaluators

Judge A is somewhat professional. The biggest weakness was her failure to communicate with the parties to try to resolve the matter.

The judge is professional and makes you feel welcome in her courtroom.

Court Personnel Evaluators

Judge A could demonstrate more sensitivity to cultural, age, gender, and disability issues.

Judge A is nice. Occasionally she engages in behavior that is too friendly for the bench.



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Report on Communication Skills

	Average Rating		Range of Ratings You Received	
	You	All Judges	Lowest	Highest
<u>Attorney Evaluators</u>				
[CA1] The judge spoke clearly during the court proceeding.	4.85	4.72	3	5
[CA2] The judge provided an explanation for the ruling.	4.58	4.55	2	5
[CA3] The judge explained the reason for a court delay.	4.75	4.57	3	5
[CA4] The judge made sure all parties (attorneys and the clients they represent) understood the court proceedings.	4.75	4.57	3	5
[CA5] The judge's oral communication in court was easily understood.	4.89	4.68	4	5
[CA6] The judge issued a concise oral decision.	4.56	4.46	2	5
[CA7] The judge listened carefully during the court proceeding.	4.85	4.70	3	5

Court Personnel Evaluators

[CP1] The judge spoke clearly during the court proceeding.	4.79	4.79	3	5
[CP2] The judge provided an explanation for the ruling.	4.90	4.70	4	5
[CP3] The judge explained the reason for a court delay.	4.80	4.70	3	5
[CP4] The judge made sure all parties (attorneys and the clients they represent) understood the court proceedings.	4.81	4.77	3	5
[CP5] The judge's oral communication in court was easily understood.	4.88	4.75	3	5
[CP6] The judge listened carefully during the court proceeding.	4.91	4.85	4	5



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Communication Skills Comments

Attorney Evaluators

The judge sometimes seems indecisive or unsure when talking through rulings, but ultimately the rulings are well grounded

Court Personnel Evaluators

Sometimes the judge explains too much to jurors. Something could be said in a sentence, and she will give a paragraph, then an example, then another paragraph.

She seems to be good about communicating with the guardians and family members and makes a point to show an interest in the well-being of the wards.



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Report on Management Skills

	Average Rating		Range of Ratings You Received	
	You	All Judges	Lowest	Highest
<u>Attorney Evaluators</u>				
[MA1] The judge started courtroom proceedings on time.	4.60	4.40	3	5
[MA2] The judge kept the cases moving promptly.	4.65	4.40	3	5
[MA3] The judge maintained an orderly pre-trial schedule.	4.74	4.47	3	5
[MA4] The judge maintained control of the courtroom.	4.97	4.88	4	5
[MA5] The judge allowed the appropriate amount of time for each case.	4.63	4.46	2	5
[MA6] The judge used courtroom time efficiently.	4.66	4.47	2	5
[MA7] The judge provided court staff with clear direction.	4.71	4.59	3	5

Court Personnel Evaluators

[MC1] The judge started courtroom proceedings on time.	4.64	4.41	3	5
[MC2] The judge kept the cases moving promptly.	4.78	4.49	3	5
[MC3] The judge maintained control of the courtroom.	4.90	4.86	4	5
[MC4] The judge allowed the appropriate amount of time for each case.	4.69	4.59	2	5
[MC5] The judge used courtroom time efficiently.	4.80	4.60	3	5
[MC6] The judge provided court staff with clear direction.	4.75	4.68	3	5



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Management Skills Comments

Attorney Evaluators

Judge A does a good job presiding over complex motion arguments.

Judge A keeps cases moving.

Court Personnel Evaluators

I believe that Judge A is too soft with discovery deadlines and other deadlines to keep the case moving.

Sometimes Judge A is late to the bench to hear case managements or motions because she is conducting pre-trials in chambers that have run longer than she anticipated.



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RESPONDENT ELIGIBILITY

Eligible participants for the Attorney evaluation included all practicing attorneys who represented a client that appeared before the evaluated judge within the past 24 months and who indicated that they had enough experience with the judge to provide an informed evaluation of performance. Eligible participants for the Court Personnel evaluation included all those who worked with the judge in their courtroom within the past 24 months and who indicated that they had enough experience with the judge to provide an informed evaluation of performance. The latter may include employees of the court, such as court clerks and bailiffs; non-attorneys who work in the courtroom, such as court interpreters or court reporters; and individuals who appeared before the court to provide status reports or testimony, such as probation officers or social workers. Respondents were screened at the beginning of the Judicial Performance Evaluation (JPE) and were excluded if they did not meet the eligibility criteria. These respondents were not included in the "Number of Eligible Participants" figure on p.2.

Additionally, some nominated respondents may have been eligible to complete this JPE, but valid contact information for the nominee was not provided. Only those with valid contact information could be invited to participate in the JPE. Nominees without valid contact information were similarly excluded from the calculation of "Number of Eligible Participants."

RESPONSE SCALES

In the evaluation survey, attorney and court personnel respondents used the same response scale to answer all rating questions. The response scale was a 5-point Likert scale measuring the frequency of the described behavior, ranging from (1) Never/almost never to (5) Every/Almost every time.

CALCULATION OF PERFORMANCE AREA SCORES

Performance area scores in both Attorney and Court Personnel evaluations were derived using the following procedure. First, the sum of all ratings provided by each respondent in each performance area was divided by the number of items answered by each respondent in that performance area to create a respondent-level average score. A respondent must have rated the judge on a minimum of three items in a performance area or they were excluded from further analysis. Then, the mean of these respondent-level average scores produced the judge's *performance area score*. That is, the sum of all respondent-level scores in a performance area was divided by the number of eligible respondents who rated the judge on at least three questions in that performance area.

CALCULATION OF TOTAL SCORES

Total evaluation scores in both Attorney and Court Personnel evaluations were obtained using a procedure similar to that used in the computation of performance area scores. For each respondent, respondent-level performance area scores were averaged to create a respondent-level total score. The respondent must have provided enough data to calculate at least three performance area scores or they were excluded from further analysis. Then, the arithmetic mean of respondent-level total scores was computed. This appears as the judge's *total* score on p. 2.

INSUFFICIENT DATA

If fewer than five attorney respondents or court personnel respondents completed the judge's evaluation, no results are reported for that version of the evaluation survey and an "n/a" is displayed in the corresponding results sections of this report. This measure was taken to protect the confidentiality of your nominees. Respondents should never feel their confidentiality or jobs are at risk by completing a JPE.

The "n/a" label in this report means either of the following: (1) An insufficient number of eligible respondents for whom valid contact information was available were nominated to complete the evaluation, or (2) An insufficient number of eligible nominees completed your evaluation. Nominees may have felt that they did not have enough experience working with you to provide an evaluation, or they may have been unavailable to provide an evaluation of your performance within the 3-week evaluation period.