



JPEC

JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE
EVALUATION COMMISSION

2024 Retention Report to Voters

13th Judicial District – Cibola, Sandoval, and Valencia Counties

The Judicial Performance Evaluation Commission makes recommendations to voters below, based on surveys with specific groups, statistics from the Administrative Office of the Courts, and interviews with each judge being evaluated.

For information on how these recommendations were made, visit www.nmjpec.org. If you have questions or would like to request printed evaluations, call 1-800-687-3417.



Honorable Briana H. Zamora
Supreme Court Justice – Statewide

RETAIN

Justice Briana Zamora’s overall survey results were quite positive. She was rated highly by attorneys for conducting herself in a manner free from impropriety, treating all courtroom participants with respect, and maintaining professional demeanor in the courtroom. Court staff, district judges, and her fellow judges and justices at the Court of Appeals and Supreme Court gave her positive scores in all areas.



Honorable Jennifer L. Attrep
Court of Appeals Judge – Statewide

RETAIN

Judge Jennifer Attrep was rated highly in many areas by court staff, district judges, and fellow appellate judges and justices. Lawyers rated her positively for conducting herself in a manner free from impropriety, treating all courtroom participants with respect, maintaining professional demeanor in the courtroom, and being prepared. Lawyers were concerned she did not always address legal issues clearly and there were concerns with her timeliness in writing opinions.



Honorable Megan P. Duffy
Court of Appeals Judge – Statewide

RETAIN

Judge Megan Duffy’s survey results were somewhat mixed. Attorneys rated her positively for maintaining professional demeanor in the courtroom and providing court participants with a meaningful opportunity to be heard. Court staff rated her positively for rendering opinions without regard to outside pressure and maintaining a professional demeanor. Court staff gave her low ratings on timeliness in making rulings and rendering decisions, effectively handling her ongoing workload, and treating court employees with respect.



Honorable Shammara H. Henderson
Court of Appeals Judge – Statewide

RETAIN

Judge Shammara Henderson received positive scores from attorneys for treating all courtroom participants with respect, maintaining professional demeanor, and being prepared. District court judges gave her generally positive ratings. Appellate court judges rated her positively in most categories, but somewhat lower in performing primary authorship responsibilities with diligence and complying with appellate time standards. Court staff rated Judge Henderson positively for maintaining a professional demeanor and treating court employees with respect, but lower in effectively handling her ongoing workload.



Honorable Allison P. Martinez

13th Judicial District Court Judge – Division 9 – General Jurisdiction

INSUFFICIENT TIME IN CURRENT POSITION TO EVALUATE

JPEC could not conduct an evaluation and make a recommendation to voters because of the time frame of the evaluation, the rules governing JPEC’s evaluation process, and New Mexico legislation on judicial retention terms. This is no reflection on Judge Martinez’ performance.



Honorable Cindy M. Mercer

13th Judicial District Court Judge – Division 6 – General Jurisdiction

RETAIN

Judge Cindy Mercer’s overall results were positive. Attorneys rated her highly for conducting herself in a manner free from impropriety, being courteous to all participants, demonstrating appropriate demeanor on the bench, and being able to decisively rule on procedural and substantive matters. Court staff and jurors rated her highly on all attributes. Resource staff (e.g., law enforcement officers, CASA volunteers, CYFD, interpreters, etc.) rated her positively for behaving in a manner that encourages respect for the courts.



Honorable Allen R. Smith

13th Judicial District Court Judge – District 3 – General Jurisdiction

RETAIN

Judge Allen Smith received positive ratings overall. Attorneys gave him high ratings for demonstrating appropriate demeanor on the bench, being courteous to all participants, attentiveness to the proceedings, and for displaying familiarity with court cases through prior preparation. Court staff and resource staff (e.g., law enforcement officers, CASA volunteers, CYFD, interpreters, etc.), rated him positively on almost every attribute.

ABOUT JPEC AND OUR RECOMMENDATIONS TO VOTERS

The New Mexico Judicial Performance Evaluation Commission (NMJPEC) is a nonpartisan, volunteer commission. We survey groups that have contact with each judge and analyze court statistics to make our recommendations to voters. We also rely on personal interviews with each judge standing for retention.

www.nmjpec.org
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