

What goes into a Performance Evaluation?

Surveys

Surveys are collected from court users. Surveys ask questions about: Integrity, Legal Knowledge, Communication, Temperament, Administration, Service to the Public.

Observations

Commissioners observe the judges in their courtroom. Commissions look for: Voice, Neutrality, Respect, Fairness, Understandable Plain Language.

Opinion Reviews

Commissioners read decisions or opinions issued by each Judge. Commissions look for: if the Judge clearly states what the issue is, a basis for their decisions, how the Judge came to the decision, and if they clearly state the outcome of the case.

Interviews

Judges and other interested parties are interviewed by the Commission. Commissions look for: Opportunity to discuss the Commissions' findings and what the Judge is doing to address issues identified in the evaluation.

Final Outcome – Commission Findings

- Determine if the Judge “Meets” or “Does Not Meet” Performance Standards
- Commission Drafts Narrative of the performance evaluation findings
- Draft narrative sent to voters on “Voter Information Guide” and posted on the Office of Judicial Performance Evaluation Website.