

Colorado Office of Judicial Performance Evaluation



2018 JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE EVALUATION STATISTICAL REPORT Pursuant to §13-5.5-114(1), C.R.S. (2017)

Of the 147 judicial officers eligible to stand for retention in 2018, 136 were evaluated by State and District Commissions. One hundred and twenty-eight (128) judicial officers declared their intent to stand for retention and appeared on the ballot in 2018. (See Table A for a breakdown by judge type.) Commissions evaluated eight additional judges not standing for retention.

State and District Commissions determined 126 of 128 (98.4%) judicial officers met performance standards. Of the remaining two, District Commissions determined judges did not meet performance standards.

Table A			
Justices and Judges Standing for Retention in 2018			
Judge Type	Regular	Provisional*	Total
Supreme Court	0	1	1
Court of Appeals	2	2	4
District Court	22	30	52
County Court	51	20	71
Grand Total	75	53	128

*Judges are first appointed by the Governor to serve a provisional term of office of at least two years before appearing on the ballot for retention. If retained, they next appear on the ballot after having served a regular term of office.

RETENTION ELECTION RESULTS

In 2018, Colorado voters retained 126 (98.4%) judicial officers and did not retain two where Commissions found the judges did not meet performance standards.

Dating back to the first retention election with commission input held in 1990, 1,559 judicial officers have stood for retention in 15 election cycles.

Colorado voters elected to retain 1,545 of the 1,559 (99.1%) judicial officers standing for retention since 1990. As shown in Table B, Colorado voters retained 99.7% of the judges receiving “Retain” recommendations, 63.6% of those receiving “Do Not Retain” recommendations, and retained all judicial officers where commissions offered no opinion. In 2018, Colorado voters retained 100% of the judges receiving “Meets Performance” and did not retain all judges receiving “Does Not Meet Performance” findings.

Table B					
Commission Recommendations and Election Results: 1990 - 2018					
Commission Recommendation	Total # of Recommendations	Election Results			
		Total Retained	Retained %	Total Not Retained	Not Retained %
Retain	1,396	1,392	99.7%	4	0.3%
Do Not Retain	22	14	63.6%	8	36.4%
No Opinion	13	13	100.0%	0	0.0%
Subtotals '90 to '16	1,431	1,419	99.2%	12	0.8%
Meets Performance	126	126	100.0%	0	0.0%
Does Not Meet	2	0	0.0%	2	100.0%
Subtotals '18	128	126	98.4%	2	1.6%
TOTALS	1,559	1,545	99.1%	14	0.9%