

**Missouri Bar**  
**2016 Trial Court Evaluation - Lawyer Survey**  
**Judge: John R. Essner**  
**21st Judicial Circuit**

**Professional Interaction:**

1) Estimated number of evaluator's cases the judge has presided over during the judge's current term of office.

0 - 5 cases	47 %
6 - 10 cases	24 %
More than 10 cases	28 %

2) Estimated number of evaluator's cases that went to trial and decision during the judge's current term of office.

0 - 5 cases	82 %
6 - 10 cases	9 %
More than 10 cases	8 %

3) Of cases before the judge that went to trial and decision during the judge's current term of office, the rulings were:

Primarily in your party's favor	15 %
About equally in favor of and against your party	64 %
Primarily against your party	14 %
N/A	8 %

**Survey Questions/Results:**

	<b>Strongly Agree (5)</b>	<b>Agree (4)</b>	<b>Neither Agree nor Disagree (3)</b>	<b>Disagree (2)</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree (1)</b>	<b>N/A: Not Applicable</b>	<b>Average Rating</b>
The judge made sure all parties (attorneys and their clients) understood the court proceedings.	31	30	5	4	1	1	4.21
Considering the amount of case law required to make the decision, the judge was prompt in rendering a decision.	23	31	7	8	3	2	3.88
The judge addressed individuals (e.g., attorneys, court staff, litigants, public, witnesses) respectfully in the courtroom.	47	20	3	2	1	1	4.51
The judge gave reasons for a ruling when needed.	33	30	3	5	1	1	4.24
The judge listened carefully during the court proceeding.	40	27	3	3	0	1	4.42
The judge started courtroom proceedings on time.	23	26	4	16	3	1	3.69
The judge allowed the appropriate amount of time for each case.	25	33	6	8	0	1	4.04

The judge used courtroom time efficiently.	21	27	10	12	2	1	3.74
The judge's ruling cited the applicable substantive law.	36	23	3	7	1	3	4.23
The judge adhered to appropriate rules of procedure.	39	23	4	6	1	1	4.27
The judge applied rules of evidence relevant to the case.	35	26	3	8	1	1	4.18
The judge assisted parties in narrowing key issues in dispute.	27	23	7	13	3	1	3.79
The judge's decision followed logically from the evidence presented.	30	24	6	9	2	1	4.00
The judge issued an order that was clearly written.	31	29	4	3	2	5	4.22
The judge treated the parties equally.	40	21	1	8	3	1	4.21
The judge carefully considered arguments from both sides before ruling.	40	16	3	7	5	1	4.11
The judge conducted the proceeding in a neutral manner.	42	16	6	5	4	1	4.19
The judge maintained a professional demeanor in the courtroom.	43	25	3	2	0	1	4.49
The judge was prepared for court.	43	22	3	3	0	1	4.48