

**Missouri Bar Association  
2020 Appellate Court Evaluation - Lawyer Survey  
Judge: Thomas N. Chapman  
Missouri Court of Appeals - Western District**

**Professional Interaction:**

1) Please estimate the number of your appeals or appellate proceedings that the Judge has heard during the Judge's current term of office:

1 - 5	89 %
6 - 10	6 %
More than 10	6 %

2) Of your case proceedings before the Judge during the Judge's current term of office, the rulings were:

Primarily in your party's favor	31 %
About equally in favor of and against your party	24 %
Primarily against your party	33 %
N/A	11 %

<b>Survey Questions/Results:</b>	<b>Never (1)</b>	<b>Rarely (2)</b>	<b>Sometimes (3)</b>	<b>Frequently (4)</b>	<b>Every Time (5)</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>Average Rating</b>
<b>Legal Ability</b>							
Writes opinions that adequately explain the basis of the court's decision.	5	4	5	8	26	6	3.96
Writes opinions that follow an applicable standard of review for the case.	5	4	4	8	27	6	4.00
Writes opinions that clearly set forth any rules of law to be used in future cases.	6	2	5	11	23	7	3.91
Writes opinions that decide only those issues that need to be decided in the case before the court.	5	3	5	8	25	7	3.98
<b>Impartiality/Fairness</b>							
Writes opinions that address the issues raised by both parties fairly.	5	3	6	12	21	7	3.87
Writes separate opinions that are appropriate in tone and substance.	3	4	4	7	22	14	4.03

<b>Survey Questions/Results:</b>	<b>Never (1)</b>	<b>Rarely (2)</b>	<b>Sometimes (3)</b>	<b>Frequently (4)</b>	<b>Every Time (5)</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>Average Rating</b>
<b>Communication Skills</b>							
Writes separate opinions that are clear.	5	2	5	10	19	13	3.88
Writes opinions that are concise.	4	1	5	14	24	6	4.10
Writes opinions that adequately summarize the relevant facts in the case.	6	2	4	12	23	6	3.94
Writes opinions in which the legal reasoning is easy to follow.	4	4	4	16	20	6	3.92
<b><i>If the attorney has appeared before the judge in oral argument:</i></b>							
<b>Impartiality/Fairness</b>							
Is attentive to the arguments of all parties during oral argument.	3	1	5	7	28	7	4.27
<b>Temperament/Demeanor</b>							
Is punctual for proceedings.	0	0	2	8	32	9	4.71
Is attentive to the differing opinions of colleagues during oral argument.	1	2	5	6	30	6	4.41
<b><i>If the judge has written an opinion for the court in one of the</i></b>							
<b>Legal Ability</b>							
Writes opinions that accurately reflect the evidence in the record.	6	2	3	10	18	14	3.82