



2026 Retention Report to Voters

1st Judicial District – Los Alamos, Rio Arriba, and Santa Fe Counties

The New Mexico Judicial Performance Evaluation Commission makes the recommendations below to voters, based on surveys with specific groups, statistics from the Administrative Office of the Courts, interviews with each judge being evaluated, and, as time and resources allow, independent courtroom observations.

For more information or if you would like to request full printed evaluations, call 1-800-687-3417 or visit www.nmjpec.org.



Honorable C. Shannon Bacon
Supreme Court Justice - Statewide

RETAIN

Justice C. Shannon Bacon's overall results are mostly positive. For example, attorneys rated the Justice positively for being prepared for oral arguments and court proceedings, being knowledgeable regarding substantive law, following the legal rules that applied to the case at issue, and for providing court participants with a meaningful opportunity to be heard. The court staff and her fellow appellate judges/justices rated her positively in all areas.



Honorable David K. Thomson
Supreme Court Justice – Statewide

RETAIN

Justice David K. Thomson received an overall positive evaluation. For example, attorneys rated him positively for providing court participants with a meaningful opportunity to be heard, treating courtroom participants with respect, and for performing duties fairly and impartially. The court staff rated Justice Thompson very highly on every attribute.



Honorable J. Miles Hanisee
New Mexico Court of Appeals Judge – Statewide

RETAIN

Judge J. Miles Hanisee received quite positive ratings overall. For example, attorneys rated Judge Hanisee positively for treating participants with respect, maintaining professional demeanor in the courtroom, and for being prepared for oral arguments and court proceedings. The court staff and his fellow appellate judges/justices rated Judge Hanisee highly in all areas. In addition, the district judges gave him positive ratings.



Honorable Kathleen McGarry Ellenwood
1st Judicial District Court Judge – Division 10, Civil Court & Habeas Corpus

RETAIN

Judge Kathleen McGarry Ellenwood received positive scores from attorneys, who rated her positively for conducting herself in a manner free from impropriety or the appearance of impropriety, ensuring that all participants understood the court proceedings, treating self-represented parties fairly, being punctual in commencing proceedings, and being attentive to the proceedings. Court staff rated Judge McGarry Ellenwood negatively in treating court employees with respect and low in maintaining professional demeanor with court employees but gave her generally positive ratings for ensuring her professional staff is professional, productive, and knowledgeable of court policies and procedures and treating self-represented parties fairly. Judge McGarry Ellenwood discussed the changes and efforts she has already made to improve these scores among court staff. Jurors rated Judge McGarry Ellenwood very high in all categories.



Honorable T. Glenn Ellington
1st Judicial District Court Judge – Division 7, Criminal Court

RETAIN

Overall, Judge T. Glenn Ellington's evaluation was quite positive. For example, attorneys rated him positively for treating self-represented parties fairly, for his ability to decisively rule on procedural and substantive matters, and for ensuring his personal staff is professional, productive, and knowledgeable of court policies and procedures. The court staff, jurors, and resource staff (e.g., law enforcement officers, CASA volunteers, CYFD, interpreters, etc.) rated Judge T. Glenn Ellington highly in all areas.



Honorable Francis J. Mathew
1st Judicial District Court Judge – Division 1, Civil Court

RETAIN

Judge Francis Mathew received a very positive overall evaluation. For example, attorneys rated him highly for treating self-represented parties fairly, maintaining professional demeanor in the courtroom, being punctual in commencing proceedings, being attentive to the proceedings, and for ensuring his personal staff is professional, productive, and knowledgeable of court policies and procedures. Judge Francis Mathew received high ratings among court staff for respecting court employees regardless of position and for behaving in a manner that encourages respect for the courts. Jurors rated him highly on all attributes.

ABOUT JPEC

The New Mexico Judicial Evaluation Commission (JPEC) is a nonpartisan volunteer commission. JPEC surveys groups that have contact with each judge and analyzes court statistics and, as time and resources allow, conducts independent courtroom evaluations. We also interview each judge standing for retention.

www.nmjpec.org
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