

Central Florida Trial Lawyers Association 2017 Judicial Survey Results

Judge	Assignment	Legal Knowledge	Impartiality	Demeanor	Diligence	Average
Kest	Circuit - 9th	4.66	3.99	4.18	4.41	4.31
Jordan	Circuit - 9th	4.51	4.35	4.5	4.38	4.44
Myers	Circuit - 9th	4.86	4.83	4.86	4.82	4.84
Schreiber	Circuit - 9th	3.11	3.03	3.53	3.24	3.23
Thorpe	Circuit - 9th	3.43	3.13	2.89	3.26	3.18
White	Circuit - 9th	3.36	3.32	3.36	2.80	3.21
Weiss	Circuit - 9th	4.86	4.85	4.87	4.79	4.84
Chase	Circuit - 18 th	3.98	4.36	4.5	4.24	4.27
Recksiedler	Circuit - 18 th	4.23	4.28	4.36	4.37	4.31
Rudisill	Circuit - 18th	4.23	4.43	4.52	4.19	4.34
Harris	Circuit - 18th	4.28	3.82	4.31	4.1	4.13
Roberts	Circuit - 18th	4.54	4.54	4.69	4.58	4.59
Turner	Circuit - 18th	4.16	4.16	4.37	4.05	4.19
Craig	Circuit - 7th	4.2	4.2	4.4	3.87	4.17
Rowe	Circuit - 7 th	4.36	4.21	4.43	4.43	4.36
Orfinger	Circuit - 7 th	4.33	4.13	4.2	4.27	4.23
Upchurch	Circuit - 7th	3.36	3.59	3.68	3.89	3.63
Davis	Circuit - 5 th	3.92	4.04	4.12	3.8	3.97
Hill	Circuit - 5 th	4.04	3.56	3.74	3.89	3.81
Singletary	Circuit - 5th	3.91	3.88	3.97	3.68	3.86
Adams	County - Orange	3.77	4	4.37	3.81	3.99
Bigney	County - Orange	3.88	4.29	4.29	3.94	4.1
Caraballo	County - Orange	3.55	3.68	3.74	3.58	3.64
Jewett	County - Orange	4.5	4.59	4.62	4.44	4.54
Schott	County - Seminole	4.42	4.36	4.27	4.36	4.35
Jancewicz	County - Osceola	3.87	3.93	4.13	3.73	3.92
Baker	County - Brevard	3.73	4.18	4.18	4.10	4.05
Silverman	County - Brevard	4.67	4.42	4.50	4.50	4.52
Dempsey	County - Volusia	4.00	4.00	4.17	4.17	4.09
Fields	County - Volusia	4.29	4.29	4.43	4.33	4.34
Kelley	County - Volusia	4.13	4.00	4.22	4.22	4.14
Neal	County - Lake	2.77	2.43	2.92	2.54	2.67

COMMENTS

Judge Kest

Judge Kest believes his knowledge of the law is greater than it actually is.

Very smart judge who exhibits, in my opinion, perfect judicial demeanor.

One of the best judges in the 9th Circuit.

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It has seemed that over the years, Judge Kest has become a little more grumpy than a Judge should. Temperament, while never a problem before, has crept in as an issue.

He was himself an excellent trial lawyer and knows what it takes to do the best job.

Sets the bar for Circuit Judges, especially in work ethic.

Judge Kest sometimes has a bit of an arrogant or condescending attitude which sometimes annoys lawyers and other judges.

Prefer not to comment. He is retiring very soon. Very talented jurist that has lost his zeal for this occupation.

Judge Jordan

Excellent judge who goes above & beyond the call of duty to do his own research.

He seems to legislate from the bench a little, not to the benefit of Plaintiffs.

Judge Jordan moves his docket in a very efficient manner.

Excellent Judge. Very knowledgeable. Wonderful personality and demeanor.

First class. Excellent demeanor and great judge.

Good example for young judges. Would be a good addition to 5th DCA or FL. Supreme Court.

Although somewhat conservative, very knowledgeable on law, A plus, and outstanding judicial demeanor. Should apply to Fifth DCA.

Judge Myers

The epitome of a great judge. He is the benchmark.

Very smart judge who has tremendous judicial insight.

I have been in front of Judge Myers since he was in Juvenile Court. I feel he is the best Orange County has to offer.

Judge Myers has a well respected knowledge and love for the law.

One of our best Judges.

It would be hard to find a more qualified and respectful Judge than Judge Myers

Probably the single best trial judge. He was a trial lawyer and understands. He also sees through nonsense and has a tremendous judicial temperament. We are very fortunate to have him on the bench.

Works hard and sets an example for other judges.

Judge Myers is exactly what all lawyers want in a Judge.

Perfect example of when a great trial lawyer becomes a judge. Great addition to the bench.

Outstanding jurist and person. Should be promoted to Fifth DCA.

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Judge Schreiber

Although likely a good person spiritually, her performance in conflict resolution places her among the worst ten civil trial judges I have ever endured.

Judge Thorpe

Very good judge who doesn't put up with lawyer's shenanigans.

Rambo approach. Doesn't follow her own rules.

Unnecessarily rude pretty much on each encounter. Serious demeanor issues.

Judge Thorpe should be more courteous and professional to those who have cases assigned to her division. She is constantly late to ex-parte hearings

Judge Thorpe sometimes appears to be angry about having to make decisions and takes it out on the lawyers.

This jurist is potentially highly capable. After 17 years of experience, I can only conclude she prefers not to conduct her cases as she likely knows she should.

Judge White

Judge White puts form over substance to a illogical and counterproductive degree.

There are many delays on Judge White's docket.

Knowledgeable Judge but puts form above substance. Focusses on procedure instead of moving cases along which creates more work for both parties. Lacks emotional intelligence.

Judge White seems to have a problem seeing the forest through the trees. Form over substance. Also tends to have a defense orientated lean in his rulings.

He could move things along faster, especially when it comes to ruling on standard run of the mill discovery issues. Make a ruling and keep the case moving.

Judge White sometimes uses the rules as a way to avoid making real decisions. Form over substance and pedantic to a fault.

Another great example of a knowledgeable top notch trial lawyer becoming a judge. Understands and commands the courtroom and his docket.

Obviously highly intelligent and committed jurist. Needs to keep the purpose of his position foremost in his goals. His job is to control the process to conflict resolution. No need to "bully" attorneys over minute details, particularly in the presence of clients.

Judge Adams

Still learning but has all the skills to be an excellent Judge. Has to better control her docket and not allow the inmates to run the asylum to be great.

Judge Bigney

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Took a little longer to get up to speed on the law than one would expect of this position.

Wish I had enough experiences to feel comfortable commenting. Seems sharp in our limited interactions.

Judge Caraballo

Needs to improve in various areas. Intends well.

Appears to prefer a "King Solomon" approach to resolving disputes.

Wish I had enough experiences to feel comfortable commenting. Seems sharp in our limited interactions.

Judge Jewett

Hard working Judge who seems to really care about making the correct ruling

Judge Recksiedler

Good judge

Judge Recksiedler is the hardest working judge in the 18th Circuit.

Has successfully made the transition from trial lawyer to Judge. Her prior "real world" litigation skills and knowledge of procedure is especially refreshing

A great example of what happens when you put a Board Certified Trial Lawyer on the civil bench. Knows the law, the rules and the players and as a result you get a stream lined honest trial where the jury accurately hears the facts and gets to apply the correct law and make a sound decision. Cannot ask for any more.

Excellent trial judge. Should be promoted to Fifth DCA.

Judge Rudisill

He gets it. Great personality and a pleasure to try a case with. Very fair.

He has common sense and works very hard. He gets it.

Best example of how to run a judicial docket efficiently. Top notch judge. Extremely intelligent.

Excellent trial judge. Should be promoted to Fifth DCA

Judge Chase

Judge Chase will spend the time necessary to full understand an issue prior to making a ruling

Has all the right qualities to be a great judge.

Judge Schott

Judge Schott runs a tight ship and expects litigants appearing before him to be timely and not wasteful of judicial resources

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Excellent

Judge Jancewicz

Osceola County Judge on PIP cases. Inconsistent rulings. Weird results that can only be explained by her very poor grasp of PIP and lack of effort. Very nice lady, but very glad to see her rotate back to criminal.

I spent a year and a half in her courtroom. She is the best Judge Osceola County has to offer. She should be in Circuit.

Willing to listen to those that appear before her in an effort to make the process as "user friendly" as possible

Judge Weiss

Great judge.

Judge Weiss is fair, impartial and loves the law. He is a great judge.

Very intelligent. Easy to talk to. Very fair to both sides . A lawyers judge. He gets it.

The jury trial that I had in front of Judge Weiss was a great experience, despite the jury's verdict. His knowledge of the law is second to none.

Very knowledgeable before he got on the bench and has brought that with him. He's an excellent judge!

Judge Weiss is one of the best judges I have ever been in front of anywhere in the State.

Outstanding trial judge. Should be promoted to Fifth DCA

Judge Harris

Judge Harris is well respected in the 18th Circuit.

Outstanding jurist. Should be promoted to Fifth DCA

Judge Roberts

Very good judge

Very bright and excellent demeanor. He gets it.

Great to have Judge Roberts on the bench. Very dedicated and intelligent.

Judge Turner

(no comments)

Judge Baker

(no comments)

Judge Silverman

(no comments)

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Judge Upchurch

(no comments)

Judge Rowe

(no comments)

Judge Orfinger

(no comments)

Judge Craig

(no comments)

Judge Dempsey

No comments

Judge Fields

No comments

Judge Kelley

No comments

Judge Singletary

Very kind man with a big heart. Means well. Always tries to get the right decision reached but would like to see his docket move faster and/or more efficiently. All and all just a good man

Judge Hill

Litigating a case against a nasty unethical defense counsel. Always sending competing orders following hearings. Judge would sign both competing orders turning rulings on head. Truly bizarre. Judge is old timer who clearly feels secure in his role.

Judge Davis

(no comments)

Judge Neal

Will only calendar 30 days out. Difficult for both parties to set hearings and plan the flow of the case for no apparent reason.

Much more of a friend to the powerful than the people which is a shame on the County Court bench.