News Release

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Arizona Commission on Judicial Performance Review Announces Official Performance Ratings for Judges

The Arizona Commission on Judicial Performance Review (“The Commission”) has released its official findings on the judicial performance of each merit-selected judge whose name will appear on the 2020 General Election Ballot. Voters can find detailed information about each judge in the Publicity Pamphlet published by the Secretary of State and sent to registered voters. Voters may also find detailed information about the judges who appear on their ballots by visiting www.azjudges.info.

How the Commission Works
Arizona has judges who are elected directly by voters and judges who are appointed by the governor after a merit selection process. Appointed judges then appear on the ballot for the voters to decide whether to keep them as judges. To help voters decide, Arizona’s Constitution created The Commission, comprised of public members, attorneys, and judges. The Commission evaluates the judicial performance of merit-selected judges through survey responses submitted by jurors, witnesses, litigants, people who represent themselves in court, attorneys, and court staff who have observed the judge at work. Judges are evaluated on their legal ability, integrity, communication, temperament, and administrative performance.

Survey responses are used to rate key aspects of each judge’s performance. The Commission uses this public input to decide whether each judge on the retention ballot “Meets” or “Does Not Meet” judicial performance standards.

The Commission reports its decision and the information collected from the surveys in the Secretary of State’s Publicity Pamphlet and on the Judicial Performance Review website at www.azjudges.info. Voters can use The Commission’s findings and data reports to be an informed voter.

Judges under the merit selection and retention system appear on the ballot as nonpartisan candidates. Therefore, a judge’s political affiliation is not considered or included in The Commission’s report or in the Publicity Pamphlet.

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The following justices and judges will appear on the 2020 General Election Ballot:

**Arizona Supreme Court:**
Robert Brutinel
Andrew Gould
John Lopez, IV

**Court of Appeals, Division I:**
Jennifer Campbell
Maria Elena Cruz
Randall Howe
Paul McMurdie

**Court of Appeals, Division II:**
James Morse, Jr.
Jennifer Perkins
Samuel Thumma
David Weinzeig

**Superior Court in Coconino County:**
Cathleen Brown Nichols

**Superior Court in Maricopa County:**
Jay Adleman
Sara Agne
Justin Beresky
Scott Blaney
Lori Horn Bustamante
Rodrick Coffey
Bruce Cohen
Suzanne Cohen
Connie Contes
Christopher Coury
Adam Driggs
Ronda Fisk
Pamela Gates
Jo Lynn Gentry

**Superior Court in Pima County:**
Renee Bennett
Deborah Bernini
Kyle Bryson
Michael Butler
Richard Gordon
Brenden Griffin
John Hinderaker
Kellie Johnson

**Superior Court in Pinal County:**
Kenneth Lee
Scott McDonald
Casey McGinley
D. Douglas Metcalf
Greg Sakall
Paul Tang
Joan Wagener
Wayne Yehling

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