

# Central Florida Trial Lawyers Association 2018 Judicial Survey Results

Judge	Assignment	Legal Knowledge	Impartiality	Demeanor	Diligence	Average
Higbee	Circuit - 9th	4.37	4.54	4.69	4.48	4.52
Jordan	Circuit - 9th	4.32	4.14	4.46	4.34	4.32
Roche	Circuit - 9th	3.94	3.65	2.82	3.71	3.53
Schreiber	Circuit - 9th	3.32	3.33	3.62	3.41	3.42
Thorpe	Circuit - 9th	3.72	3.4	3.1	3.65	3.47
Underwood	Circuit - 9th	3.77	4	4.23	3.77	3.94
White	Circuit - 9th	2.74	2.82	2.66	1.93	2.54
Weiss	Circuit - 9th	4.91	4.77	4.85	4.86	4.85
Chase	Circuit - 18 <sup>th</sup>	4.11	4.19	4.39	4.22	4.23
Recksiedler	Circuit - 18 <sup>th</sup>	4.42	4.34	4.27	4.38	4.35
Rudisill	Circuit - 18th	4.45	4.54	4.58	4.25	4.46
Galluzzo	Circuit - 18th	4.57	4.46	4.32	4.35	4.43
Harris	Circuit - 18th	4.27	3.86	4.23	4.09	4.11
Roberts	Circuit - 18th	4.62	4.33	4.71	4.57	4.56
Turner	Circuit - 18th	4.07	4.	4.2	3.93	4.05
Craig	Circuit - 7th	4.14	4.14	4.14	4	4.11
Rowe	Circuit - 7 <sup>th</sup>	3.93	4.	4.14	3.93	4
Orfinger	Circuit - 7 <sup>th</sup>	4.4	4.07	4.2	4.2	4.22
Upchurch	Circuit - 7th	3.37	3.74	3.7	3.74	3.64
Davis	Circuit - 5 <sup>th</sup>	4.12	4.08	4.35	4.16	4.18
Hill	Circuit - 5 <sup>th</sup>	3.69	3.38	3.62	3.61	3.58
Singletary	Circuit - 5th	4	3.84	4.16	3.48	3.87
Adams	County - Orange	3.96	4.24	4.32	4.04	4.14
Johnson	County - Orange	3.89	4.16	4.11	4.11	4.07
Allen	County - Orange	3.36	3.64	3.78	3.6	3.6
DuBois	County - Orange	4	4.27	4.47	4.24	4.25
Schott	County - Seminole	4.19	4.39	4.33	4.23	4.29
Jancewicz	County - Osceola	3.91	3.91	3.73	3.91	3.87
Baker	County - Brevard	3.86	3.86	3.86	3.86	3.86
Silverman	County - Brevard	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.3
Dempsey	County - Volusia	3.83	3.83	4	4.17	3.96
Fields	County - Volusia	4	4.11	4.22	4.22	4.14
Kelley	County - Volusia	4.14	4.29	4.29	4.29	4.25
Neal	County - Lake	2.67	2.25	2.33	2.42	2.42

## COMMENTS

Judge Higbee

Wonderful Judge.

I tried two cases with Judge Higbee last year and she is fair, firm and a credit to the civil bench.

Possesses all of the proper skills and demeanor to be a great judge.

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Great Judge!

Tries very hard and takes it seriously

Excellent and smart judge. Glad she's in our circuit

She is an AMAZING Judge! Probably the best that we have.

Judge Jordan

Great Judge.

He seems to go completely out of his way to try and not follow case law if it favors the plaintiff.

Being a good judge starts with being a good man and good family man and John Jordan is both a good man and a good judge.

This judge knows the law and gives impartial decisions.

Great demeanor; smart; and a judge we should be proud of.

Incredible judicial demeanor

I am all for cloning if we can have more Judge Jordans

Judge Roche

She is rude, demeaning, short, and makes facial gestures exhibiting her frustrations and anger which is completely unnecessary. She does this whether the jury is present or not. Trials are difficult enough without having to confront this from the judges as well

Judge Roche works hard but needs to let the lawyers do their jobs and needs a better demeanor. She can be unnecessarily mean and nasty

Very sharp, but not always the most patient and pleasant - though she is getting better.

Very smart judge. She just needs to remember to treat all attorneys with respect.

Impatient. Unprofessional. Disrespectful to parties and little to no knowledge of law.

Judge Underwood

We will miss Judge Underwood. She was an excellent addition to the Circuit Court bench. One of the Governor's best appointments.

I'm sorry to see her leave the bench after such a short career.

We heard she was stepping down. She tries very hard and works very hard. We would hope not to lose her.

A true gem on the bench. Sorry to lose her.

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## Judge Schreiber

I had simple discovery hearings that took about 8 months for her to rule in which significantly impacted the case.

Lots of those who don't she is necessarily fair.

## Judge Thorpe

I've lucked out and I know it. I stole her heart in a complex case with extremely tough causation, but clients that deserved every extra mile and then some and she was with me all the way. In another case, she literally picked up the FRCP pick and tossed it at the head of opposing counsel from Wicker Smith. I also won that hearing.

She has come a long way in a positive manner. She is no nonsense and we need that.

Very smart and no-nonsense judge. A little snippy at times.

## Judge White

Again, I'm the outlier. He saved my ass when DA tried to pull a stunt and halt a site inspection, while my expert (who traveled from California) and I are at the site for the inspection. White responded to my pleas for an emergency hearing, got on the phone in under 15 minutes during the lunch hour, the proceeded to let DA have it the "White" way.

Tries very hard but has a tendency to overthink issues. While I was not involved the idea of compelling lawyers to meet on Saturday morning is worrisome. Also, turning lawyers away who didn't certify a meet and confer exactly the way he proposes is troublesome.

Paralysis by analysis with Judge White.

Very disorganized courtroom.

Impossible to get anything accomplished and he will not hold unethical or uninformed attorneys accountable. He will look for a reason to rule in favor of the defense and only when presented with a case right on point will he rule in plaintiff's favor. His PTCs are an exercise in futility.

Is very inefficient and seems to have problems rulings on difficult issues

Lots of complaints about dragging things out and spinning his wheels. Hopefully, that will improve.

Nice enough judge but takes way too long making decisions. Unreasonable demands on lawyers (ie Saturday work days)

worst judge I have appeared before in 30 years. He is clueless and I rather have the rude Judge Thorpe

## Judge Adams

She is very patient and listens to all arguments. She is pleasant and makes the right decision

Going to be a very good judge for many years to come.

Sweet lady

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## Judge Johnson

Great Judge and addition to our bench. I think he will be bumped into Circuit soon.

Nice addition to the bench

## Judge Allen

Not fit to be on the civil bench. Very moody and unpredicatble.

Wonderful Judge.

## Judge DuBois

Great addition to the bench. Very fair and great demeanor.

Top notch. Great addition to the judiciary.

He's getting there! He continues to show a strong willingness to learn the ropes of Civil and I'm a willing teacher.

New and tries hard.

## Judge Recksiedler

It's nice to have a board certified civil trial lawyer on the bench. She gets it. Understands our practice and our needs. Top of the mark.

Best draw in Seminole. One of top draws in Central Florida.

Great Judge! Is well prepared and is not afraid to rule.

Smart, prepared, and makes decisions. Going to be really good.

Extremely biased judge with poor working knowledge of the law and she does not care to learn.

## Judge Rudisill

Excellent Judge. One our best.

Great legal mind and knows how to move his docket. No nonsense. Top of the mark. Wish we had more judges like Judge Rudisill.

One of the best judges in the 18th Circuit.

Excellent and a good guy. Makes decisions and tries to make the right ones.

He treats everyone who appears before him with respect and is very comfortable in his skin.

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## Judge Chase

Going to be another excellent Seminole County Trial Judge. Quick learner and knows how to move her docket. Great addition to the bench.

## Judge Galluzo

Spectacular judge - knows the law - not afraid to make tough decisions.

He is good and can improve.

## Judge Schott

Great guy and great judge.

he will get better and deserves good marks.

## Judge Weiss

should be on the 5th dca

The gold standard. Great Judge.

The best of the best. Understands the practice of law and therefore understands what it takes to be a great judge. Top of the mark.

Excellent judge!!! It is a pleasure to try and case in front of him.

The Top Jurist I can appear before in Central Florida (our firm cannot appear before Judge Myers b/c he is former partner)

Brilliant judge - smooth demeanor - a legal expert - best judge in the 9th Circuit.

Smart, knows the law, and prepared. He was meant for this position and we are lucky to have him.

He seems impartial and he will grow into this position well.

## Judge Harris

Very experienced judge. He is 5th DCA material - I hope he makes it onto the appellate bench.

## Judge Roberts

Excellent in every respect.

## Judge Neal

The second-to-worst Judge I have ever been in front of. A true menace to the people of Lake County.

Has neither the demeanor nor the desire to be a good judge. Poor people skills and poor effort is a bad combination for a County Court Judge.