

**Fourth Judicial District Judicial Development Program
Judicial Development Assessment - EXTERNAL**

PUNCTUALITY AND EFFICIENCY

On a scale of 1 - 9, where (1) is Never and (9) is Always, indicate whether Judge Sam Sample shows the following behaviors. If you have no direct knowledge about a question, please feel free to leave it blank.

	1- Never	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9- Always
Allots an appropriate amount of time for each case	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Is prompt in making rulings during proceedings	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Begins court late	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Explains reasons for delays	<input type="checkbox"/>								

ASSISTANCE

On a scale of 1 - 9, where (1) is Never and (9) is Always, indicate whether Judge Sam Sample shows the following behaviors. If you have no direct knowledge about a question, please feel free to leave it blank.

	1- Never	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9- Always
Is available to respond during working hours	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Recognizes when settlement by agreement is not possible	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Provides the appropriate demeanor during settlement	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Assists parties in narrowing issues	<input type="checkbox"/>								

INDEPENDENCE

On a scale of 1 - 9, where (1) is Never and (9) is Always, indicate whether Judge Sam Sample shows the following behaviors. If you have no direct knowledge about a question, please feel free to leave it blank.

	1- Never	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9- Always
Bases decisions on evidence and arguments	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Prohibits attorneys from engaging in unprofessional practices in court	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Conducts the courtroom in a neutral manner	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Refrains from being influenced by ex parte communication	<input type="checkbox"/>								

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COURTROOM CONDUCT

On a scale of 1 - 9, where (1) is Never and (9) is Always, indicate whether Judge Sam Sample shows the following behaviors. If you have no direct knowledge about a question, please feel free to leave it blank.

	1- Never	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9- Always
Gives all participants an opportunity to be heard	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Gives proceedings a sense of dignity	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Uses understandable language	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Speaks clearly	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Makes sure all participants understand the proceedings	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Maintains eye contact with person to whom s/he is speaking	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Speaks directly to the person involved in the ruling	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Treats participants with respect	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Has a tendency for erratic behavior	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Treats everyone involved politely	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Is confident in his/her decisions	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Is able to make tough decisions when necessary	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Gives reasons for rulings	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Has made inappropriate comments or jokes	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Is unwilling to reconsider error in fact or law	<input type="checkbox"/>								

LEGAL KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITY

On a scale of 1 - 9, where (1) is Never and (9) is Always, indicate whether Judge Sam Sample shows the following behaviors. If you have no direct knowledge about a question, please feel free to leave it blank.

	1- Never	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9- Always
Has knowledge of relevant substantive law	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Uses good judgment in application of relevant law and rules	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Excellent knowledge of rules of procedure and evidence	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Is consistent in applying sanctions for failure to obey orders	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Does the necessary 'homework' on the cases	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Is not able to identify and analyze relevant facts	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Provides solid written findings of facts and memoranda	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Is consistent in the application of laws and rules	<input type="checkbox"/>								

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IMPARTIALITY

On a scale of 1 - 9, where the mid-point (5) means this judge favors neither, (1) is strongly favors "A" and (9) is strongly favors "B", indicate whether Judge Sam Sample exhibits any biases for any of the following groups. If you have no direct knowledge about a question, please feel free to leave it blank.

	1- Favors A	2	3	4	5- Neutral	6	7	8	9- Favors B
A. Pro Se Litigants									
B. Litigants with attorneys	<input type="checkbox"/>								
A. Plaintiff's Attorney									
B. Defendant's Attorney	<input type="checkbox"/>								
A. Women									
B. Men	<input type="checkbox"/>								
A. Whites									
B. Persons of color	<input type="checkbox"/>								
A. Judge's own ethnic group									
B. Other ethnic groups	<input type="checkbox"/>								
A. Poor defendants									
B. Wealthy defendants	<input type="checkbox"/>								

OVERALL ASSESSMENT

On a scale of 1 - 9, where (1) is Never and (9) is Always, indicate whether Judge Sam Sample shows the following behaviors. If you have no direct knowledge about a question, please feel free to leave it blank.

	1- Never	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9- Always
This judge treats litigants in a fair manner	<input type="checkbox"/>								
This judge decides cases in a just manner	<input type="checkbox"/>								

On a scale of 1 - 9, where (1) is Very unlikely and (9) is Very likely, indicate whether Judge Sam Sample shows the following behaviors. If you have no direct knowledge about a question, please feel free to leave it blank.

	1- Very unlikely	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9- Very likely
When you leave this judge's courtroom, how likely are you to believe that the parties were treated fairly?	<input type="checkbox"/>								
How likely are your clients to leave this judge's courtroom with a feeling that justice was done?	<input type="checkbox"/>								

On a scale of 1 - 9, where (1) is Poor and (9) is Excellent, indicate how you feel about Judge Sam Sample's overall performance. If you have no direct knowledge about a question, please feel free to leave it blank.

	1- Poor	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9- Excellent
Taking everything into account, how would you rate the work of this judge?	<input type="checkbox"/>								

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Survey Responder Information

How long have you practiced law in Minnesota?

- Less than 2 years 2-10 years More than 10 years

In the past 12 months, how often have you appeared before Judge Sam Sample?

- Less than 3 times 3-5 times More than 5 times

Regarding these appearances, did you most often represent the:

- Plaintiff Defendant Both equally

Your gender:

- Male Female

Your racial background: (Please select one answer only.)

- White Asian Indian Black Other (specify) _____

Your ethnic background:

- Hispanic Non-Hispanic

Your age:

- Under 35 years 35-55 years Over 55 years

Do you practice in other jurisdictions?

- Yes, other counties Yes, federal court No

- Yes, Other (specify) _____

Type of practice:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Private: Solo | <input type="checkbox"/> City Attorney |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Private: 2-50 attorneys | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Government |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Private: 51-100 attorneys | <input type="checkbox"/> Legal Aid or other non-profit agency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Private: over 100 attorneys | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Defender | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> County Attorney | |

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Please take a few more minutes and give us your impression of this judge using your own words:

What would you say to a friend who was assigned to Judge Sam Sample? Please elaborate.

What are the strengths and weaknesses of Judge Sam Sample's overall case management ability?

Have you ever had any reason to doubt Judge Sam Sample's integrity? Please explain the situation.

What are the strengths and weaknesses of Judge Sam Sample's legal knowledge and ability?

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Do you recall any incidents that demonstrate Judge Sam Sample's bias? Please explain.

What are the strengths and weaknesses of Judge Sam Sample's courtroom demeanor?

What aspects of Judge Sam Sample's performance do you believe to be particularly commendable?

What aspects of Judge Sam Sample's performance do you believe need improvement?

Do you have any additional comments about Judge Sam Sample?