



alaska judicial council

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Judicial Council
FROM: Staff
DATE: April 27, 2018
RE: Juror Survey Report

The Alaska Judicial Council surveyed all jurors who sat in trials during 2016 and 2017. The jurors sat before 14 of the 15 trial court judges eligible to stand for retention in 2018 (no jurors sat before Kirsten Swanson). A total of 838 jurors responded on Council-provided postcards that judges distributed to jurors at the end of each trial (see attached example). Jurors completed the surveys on the postage-paid cards and mailed them to the Council.

Council staff entered the data from the surveys and ran basic descriptive statistics. This memorandum summarizes the findings. It is distributed to Council members and judges, and posted on the Council's website.

Table 1 shows the distribution of jurors by type of trial reported for each judge. Some jurors only wrote comments and did not rate the judge on the specific variables. Thus, there may be more respondents shown on Table 1 than appear on the judges' individual tables.

Table 1:				
Distribution of Jurors by Type of Trial, by Judge				
Alaska Judicial Council				
2018 Retention Juror Survey				
Judge	Civil	Criminal	No Answer	Total
Carey, William Barker	4	6	3	13
Chung, Jo-Ann M.	0	29	1	30
Clark, Brian K.	33	59	6	98
Corey, Michael D.	0	171	7	178
Estelle, William L.	1	16	4	21
Illsley, Sharon A.S.	0	75	8	83
Lyle, Paul R.	1	45	1	47
McConahy, Michael P.	0	32	2	34
Miller, Kevin	2	7	3	12
Morse, William F.	9	29	1	39
Seekins, Ben	2	58	9	69
Walker, Herman G., Jr.	15	0	0	15
Wolfe, John W.	4	16	0	20
Wolverton, Michael L.	5	163	11	179

Table 2 shows the distribution of number of days served, as reported by the jurors. Fifty percent of the jurors served fewer than five days.

Table 2: Distribution of Days Served Alaska Judicial Council 2018 Retention Juror Survey		
Number of Days Served	%	N
1 - 2 Days	17	141
3 - 4 Days	33	275
5 - 7 Days	27	226
8 - 10 Days	9	79
11 - 20 Days	9	72
21 or More Days	1	10
No Answer	4	35
Total		838

Individual Results

Table 3 shows each judge’s mean rating for each question on the survey. Each judge’s individual survey results are provided in separate tables. Jurors used a five-point scale, with ***excellent* rated as five, and *poor* rated as one**. The closer the jurors' ratings were to five, the higher that judge's evaluation by the jurors. The last column shows the total number of jurors who evaluated the judge on at least one variable.

	Impartiality and Fairness	Respectful and Courteous	Attentive During Proceedings	Control During Proceedings	Intelligence and Skill as a Judge	Overall Mean	Total Count
Carey, William Barker	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8	13
Chung, Jo-Ann M.	4.9	5.0	5.0	5.0	4.9	4.9	30
Clark, Brian K.	4.9	5.0	4.9	5.0	5.0	5.0	98
Corey, Michael D.	5.0	5.0	5.0	4.9	5.0	5.0	178
Estelle, William L.	4.8	4.9	4.5	4.8	4.9	4.9	21
Illsley, Sharon A.S.	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	83
Lyle, Paul R.	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.9	4.8	4.8	47
McConahy, Michael P.	4.9	4.8	4.8	4.9	4.9	4.9	34
Miller, Kevin	5.0	5.0	5.0	4.9	5.0	5.0	12
Morse, William F.	5.0	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	5.0	39
Seekins, Ben	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.8	4.8	4.7	66
Walker, Herman G., Jr.	4.8	5.0	4.5	4.7	4.8	4.9	15
Wolfe, John W.	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.8	4.8	4.8	20
Wolverton, Michael L.	4.9	4.9	4.8	4.9	4.9	4.9	179