

**The Missouri Bar
2010 Trial Court Evaluation Survey**

**Judge: Hon. Dennis N. Smith
21st Judicial Circuit**

<u>Questions:</u>	<u>Number of Responses:</u>						<u>Average Rating</u>
	<u>Blank</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	
Treats people equally regardless of race,gender,ethnicity, economic status, or any other factor	2	42	16	24	44	130	3.80
Displays fairness and impartiality toward each side of the case	0	50	28	44	42	94	3.40
Is not affected by partisan considerations	4	48	10	34	52	110	3.65
Is prepared for hearings and trials	2	38	4	30	66	118	3.87
Allows parties latitude to present their arguments	0	62	22	50	40	84	3.24
Bases decisions on evidence and arguments	0	52	24	50	50	82	3.33
Gives reasons for rulings	2	46	18	42	56	94	3.52
Demonstrates appropriate demeanor on bench	0	54	28	44	48	84	3.31
Maintains and requires proper order and decorum in the courtroom	0	36	8	42	60	112	3.79
Is competent in the law	2	34	12	40	56	114	3.80
Rulings on dispositive motions state reasons and consistently apply the substantive law	6	44	32	36	46	94	3.45
Effectively uses pretrial procedure to narrow and define the issues	4	50	20	40	42	102	3.50
Understands rules of procedure and evidence	0	38	16	34	40	130	3.81
Weighs all evidence fairly and impartially before rendering a decision	4	58	30	48	40	78	3.20
Written opinions and orders are clear	16	38	20	36	58	90	3.59

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Clearly explains all oral decisions	8	50	24	34	48	94	3.45
Efficiently manages his/her docket	2	32	12	36	56	120	3.86
Issues timely opinions/decisions	8	38	12	34	46	120	3.79