JUDICIAL CANDIDATE EVALUATIONS

If you are not a lawyer, how do you know which judicial candidates are qualified to serve? The average San Diego citizen has very little access to information about judicial candidates, and that’s why the San Diego County Bar Association created its Judicial Election Evaluation Committee (JEEC) and its evaluation process. Originally modeled after the process used by the State of California's Judicial Nomination Evaluation Committee (JNE) to vet judicial applicants for appointment, our JEEC process reviews candidates in contested elections only and gives them one of four evaluations. The evaluations are then widely publicized throughout our community as a service for voters.

**JEEC Quick Facts**

- Candidates are not compared to one another — each candidate is evaluated on their own merit and given their own evaluation.
- The Committee is comprised of 21 members who represent a cross-section of our diverse legal community.
- To evaluate candidates, JEEC members gather information and insight from the legal community and beyond.
- All information submitted to the Committee is confidential.
- For 2018, we added a numeric scale to our evaluation process to reinforce the objectivity of the process and to provide an additional tool for the Committee.
- The SDCBA has been providing evaluations for candidates in contested judicial elections since 1978.

**JEEC Evaluations**

- Exceptionally Qualified
- Well Qualified
- Qualified
- Lacking Qualifications

If the JEEC Committee does not have enough information, they can also deem a candidate “Unable to Evaluate.”

Judicial Candidates are evaluated on 15 different factors, including:

- Fairness & Objectivity
- Integrity & Honesty
- Decisiveness
- Judgment & Common Sense
- Judicial Temperament
- Knowledge Of The Law
- Professional Reputation
- Trial Experience
- Intellect And Ability
- Tolerance & Lack Of Bias
- Caseload Management
- Courtesy And Patience
- Writing & Research Skills
- Compassion & Understanding

Race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, disability and political affiliation and type of law practice are not factors in the evaluation process.

To read about the Judicial Evaluation Election Committee Process and the Committee’s rules, visit [www.sdcba.org/judicialevaluations](http://www.sdcba.org/judicialevaluations)