

**NEW LAW Judicial Performance Evaluation
20 OS 1671**

A. The Oklahoma Supreme Court, under the general administrative authority over all Oklahoma courts as granted in Article 7, Section 6 of the Oklahoma Constitution, shall establish the Office of Judicial Performance Evaluation within the Administrative Office of the Courts. The Supreme Court shall also establish the Judicial Performance Evaluation Council to administer the process for reviewing the performance of judicial officers.

B. The purposes of the judicial evaluation process are to provide information on judicial performance for the citizens of Oklahoma and to judges; assist judges with opportunities for improving judicial performance; identify needed judicial education programs; and promote goals of protecting judicial independence while fostering public accountability of the judiciary.

**NEW LAW Office of Judicial Performance Evaluation
20 OS 1672**

A. The Office of Judicial Performance Evaluation shall have a director to be appointed by the Oklahoma Supreme Court. The director shall hire one or more employees to assist the Judicial Performance Evaluation Council in administration of the Judicial Performance Evaluation process as defined by Supreme Court Rules.

B. The Administrative Office of the Courts shall provide operational support to the OJPE employees.

C. The Director of the Office of Judicial Performance Evaluation shall have the ability to hire an outside vendor to assist in the surveys established for evaluation of judicial performance.

**NEW LAW Judicial Performance Evaluation Council
20 OS 1763**

A. The Supreme Court shall establish a Judicial Performance Evaluation Council (JPEC) which shall administer the process for reviewing the performance of judicial officers. The JPEC shall review survey results according to the judicial performance standards established by Supreme Court Rules and compile a report.

B. The report of the JPEC shall be provided to the Chief Justice for distribution to the Oklahoma Supreme Court. Upon receipt of the JPEC Report, the Supreme Court shall conduct a full-scale, de novo examination and determine whether each individual judge has or has not sufficiently met the judicial performance standards.

NEW LAW Supreme Court Rules to Govern Process

20 OS 1674

A. The Supreme Court shall adopt and administer for all intermediate appellate judges and district court judges, a process established by court rules for evaluating judicial performance. The rules shall include written performance standards and performance reviews which survey opinions of persons who have knowledge of the judge's performance and shall include self-evaluation by the judge. Such process shall be made available to the Governor, the Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives, and the President Pro Tempore of the State Senate.

B. The Supreme Court shall establish rules for improving judicial performance and may include programs determined to be appropriate for judges who need improvement in achieving judicial evaluation standards. The Supreme Court, at any time, may refer an evaluation report to the Council on Judicial Complaints. Such rules shall be made available to the Governor, the Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives, and the President Pro Tempore of the State Senate.

C. Information received from the evaluation surveys shall remain confidential except as provided in this section. If a judicial officer fails to achieve an overall satisfactory judicial evaluation by the Supreme Court in the second of two consecutive evaluations, or purposely fails to complete assigned programs or the self-evaluation, the judge's right to confidentiality shall be waived, and the failure of that judicial officer to meet the standards set forth in Supreme Court Rules shall be made publicly available on the Supreme Court's website.

NEW LAW Annual Report

20 OS 1675

The Supreme Court shall prepare an annual report on the implementation of the performance evaluation program beginning December 31 of the year following the effective date of this act and shall distribute the report to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the State Senate, the chairpersons of the House and Senate Judiciary Committees. The annual report on judicial performance evaluation shall be posted on the Supreme Court website.

The annual report shall include, but is not limited to, the number of evaluations performed for each level of judicial officers, the percentage of responses received, and a summary of the overall evaluation results and of all actions taken to address inadequacies and deficiencies.