

FOX VALLEY COURT WATCH
QUARTERLY REPORT



Eye on the Domestic Violence Courts

THIRD QUARTER REPORT
JULY 1 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

KANE/KENDALL COUNTY

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The third quarter of 2016 produced a total of 63 case observation forms (Kane County: 32 reports; Kendall County: 31 reports). Case outcome breakdown is as follows:

Kane County:

- 14 cases were continued as victim or witness was a not present
- 7 cases dismissed, most due to victim or witness continuing to not appear
- 8 cases guilty verdict
- 3 cases not guilty verdict

Kendall County:

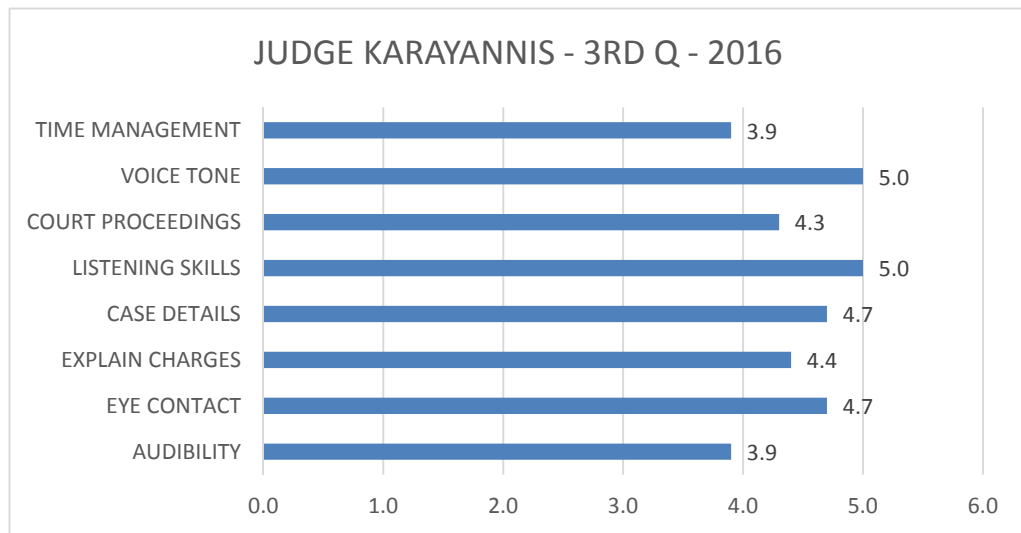
- 11 cases were continued as victim or witness was not present
- 9 cases were dismissed due to victim or witness continuing to not appear
- 5 cases guilty verdict
- 1 case not guilty verdict
- 5 guilty pleas to the lesser charge of common battery

The following pages display the scores given to the Judges observed and supporting comments.

The attached files display the details of the cases observed in Kane and Kendall County.

Q3-2016	AUDIBILITY	EYE CONTACT	EXPLAIN CHARGES	CASE DETAILS	LISTENING SKILLS	COURT PROCEEDINGS	VOICE TONE	TIME MANAGEMENT
KARAYANNIS	2	4	3	4	5	4	5	5
KARAYANNIS	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4
KARAYANNIS	4	5	0	5	5	0	5	5
KARAYANNIS	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	4
KARAYANNIS	3	5	5	5	5	5	5	3
KARAYANNIS	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
KARAYANNIS	4	4	5	5	5	4	5	2
KARAYANNIS	4	4	5	5	5	4	5	4
KARAYANNIS	3	4	5	4	5	5	5	3
KARAYANNIS	3	5	5	4	5	5	5	4
KARAYANNIS	5	5	5	4	5	5	5	3
KARAYANNIS	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
TOTAL SCORE	47	56	53	56	60	52	60	47
AVG. SCORE	3.9	4.7	4.4	4.7	5.0	4.3	5.0	3.9

AUDIBILITY	3.9
EYE CONTACT	4.7
EXPLAIN CHARGES	4.4
CASE DETAILS	4.7
LISTENING SKILLS	5.0
COURT PROCEEDINGS	4.3
VOICE TONE	5.0
TIME MANAGEMENT	3.9



COMMENTS:

Attorneys milling around whispering among themselves.
 Judge suggested we go to Rm 214 after cases were dismissed and continued.
 Attorney for defendant 20 minutes late. Judge waited.
 Judge's instructions seem detailed, perhaps a copy could be given to jury.
 Seems to be a need to reduce paper through automation. Everyone would have access to all information.
 Need private places for attorneys to confer with clients.
 Difficult to hear attorneys due to loud voice of interpreter.
 Attorneys not ready when judge took bench at 1:30. Still not ready at 2:10. Judge left bench to "cool down."

Audibility issues often due to attorneys milling around and talking.

General confusion in front of rail makes it seem more like a circus than court.

There are often discussions having nothing to do with court.

Rules that apply to gallery should apply to people front of rail.

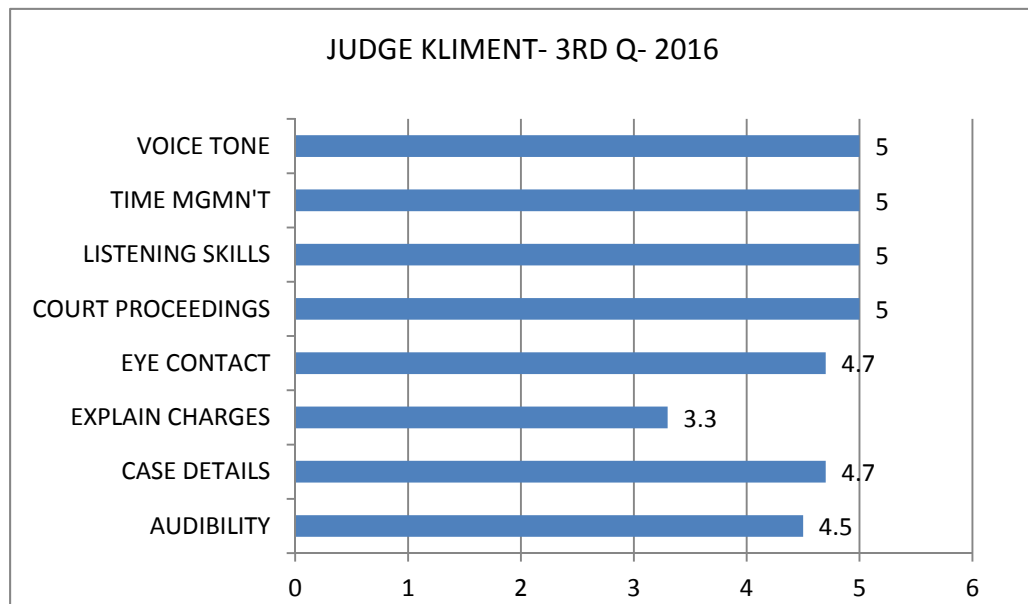
Judge seems very familiar with concerns related to domestic violence, safety of victims, etc.

Judge ready at 1:30. At 1:40 gave everyone 5 minutes to be ready, saying she was tired of not being able to start on time.

ASA Steger speaks too softly and at times is not prepared.

Q3-2016	AUDIBILITY	EYE CONTACT	EXPLAIN CHARGES	CASE DETAILS	LISTENING SKILLS	COURT PROCEEDING	VOICE TONE	TIME MGT.
KLIMENT	3	4	0	0	4	0	4	5
KLIMENT	5	4	0	5	5	5	5	5
KLIMENT	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
KLIMENT	5	5	5	4	5	5	5	5
	18	18	10	14	19	15	19	20
AVERAGE SCORE	4.5	4.7	3.3	4.7	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0

AUDIBILITY	4.5
CASE DETAILS	4.7
EXPLAIN CHARGES	3.3
EYE CONTACT	4.7
COURT PROCEEDINGS	5.0
LISTENING SKILLS	5.0
TIME MGMT	5.0
VOICE TONE	5.0



Comments:

Nothing was posted outside rm. 217.

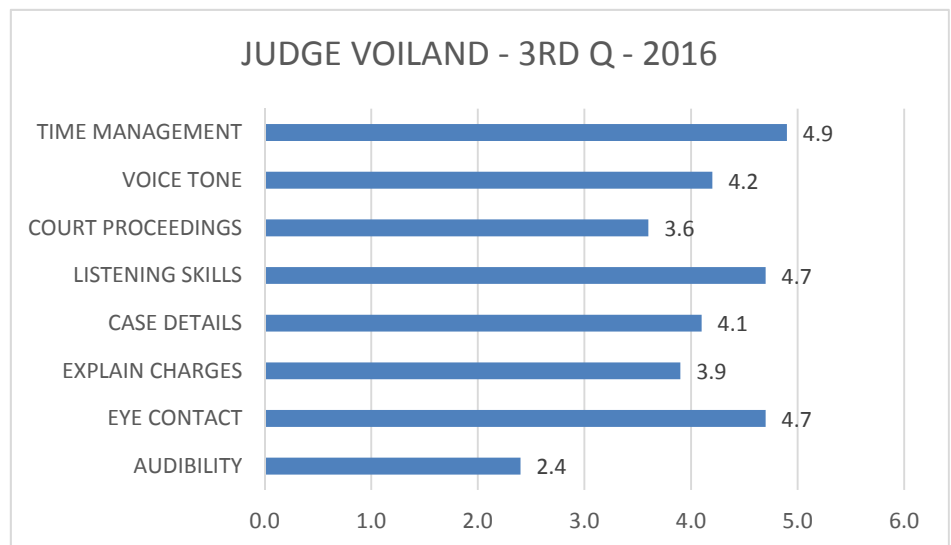
After both sides argued motion to dismiss judge denied motion. Referenced Illinois Supreme Court Ruling.

Very difficult to hear attorneys.

Many times it is difficult to hear what is being discussed between Judge and attorneys.

Q3-2016	AUDIBILITY	EYE CONTACT	EXPLAIN CHARGES	CASE DETAILS	LISTENING SKILLS	COURT PROCEEDINGS	VOICE TONE	TIME MGT.
VOILAND	2	4	4	4	4	3	4	4
VOILAND	2	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
VOILAND	2	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
VOILAND	1	4	1	1	4	1	1	5
VOILAND	2	5	4	4	5	3	3	5
VOILAND	4	4	4	4	4	4	5	5
VOILAND	2	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
VOILAND	4	5	2	4	5	3	5	5
TOTAL SCORE	3	5	5	5	5	3	5	5
AVERAGE SCORE	2.4	4.7	3.9	4.1	4.7	3.6	4.2	4.9

AUDIBILITY	2.4
EYE CONTACT	4.7
EXPLAIN CHARGES	3.9
CASE DETAILS	4.1
LISTENING SKILLS	4.7
COURT PROCEEDINGS	3.6
VOICE TONE	4.2
TIME MANAGEMENT	4.9



Comments:

Judge is extremely soft spoken. Inaudible many times.

Interested parties and observer often needs to ask someone what the result of the case was.

Simply cannot hear the private conversations between the Judge and case participants.

Victims and Family members should be able to hear proceedings. Judge's tone is not respectful of that group.

Judge does not use audio system. Cannot evaluate many of the categories.

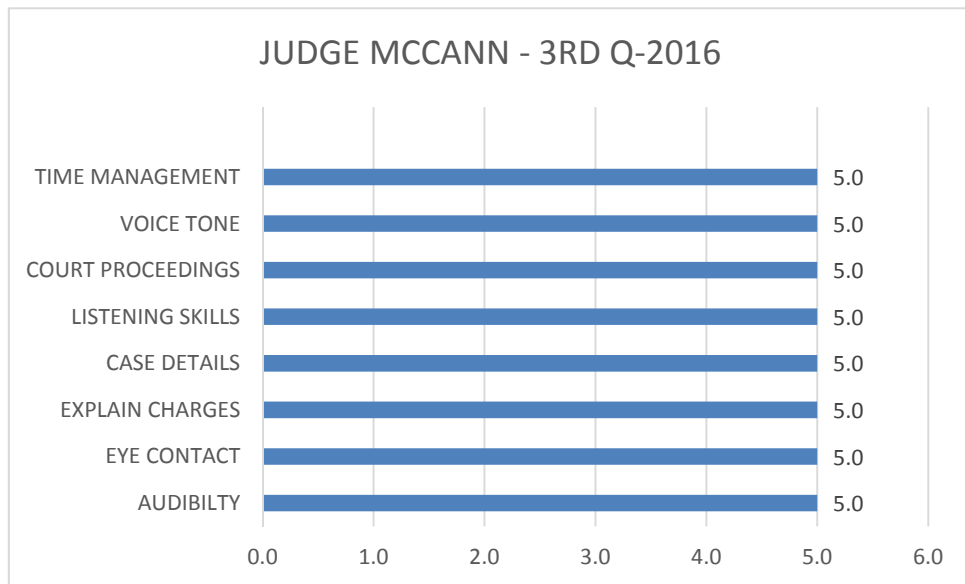
No explanation of why current case is being lumped with two other cases pending for the defendant.

Audibility better today because less people in front of rail.

Attorneys need to take conversations outside, often very distracting to observer and gallery.

Q3-2016	AUDIBILITY	EYE CONTACT	EXPLAIN CHARGES	CASE DETAILS	LISTENING SKILLS	COURT PROCEEDINGS	VOICE TONE	TIME MANAGEMENT
MCCANN	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
TOTAL SCORE	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
AVERAGE SCORE	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0

AUDIBILITY	5.0
EYE CONTACT	5.0
EXPLAIN CHARGES	5.0
CASE DETAILS	5.0
LISTENING SKILLS	5.0
COURT PROCEEDINGS	5.0
VOICE TONE	5.0
TIME MANAGEMENT	5.0



Comments:

Very thorough explanations throughout BT.
 In Room 113 witnesses take stand and speak in microphone.
 Attorneys can be heard no matter where they stand.
 Judge speaks can be clearly heard. Much better than Room 114.

