

## Opinion Review Worksheet

<b>Judge:</b>	
<b>Case Name:</b>	<b>Case Number:</b>
<b>Case Type</b>	
<b>Area(s) of Law:</b>	

Standard	Meets the Standard	Comments
<b>Integrity</b>		
Interprets and applies the law regardless of personal beliefs.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	
Fairly considers and addresses the issues.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	
The judge displays fairness and impartiality toward all parties		
<b>Legal Knowledge</b>		
Opinion is well-reasoned (based on the bulleted standards below).	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describes the parties' arguments and positions.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sets out pertinent facts, without unnecessary detail, and demonstrates</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	

knowledge of the record and case history.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discusses and analyzes applicable legal principles, including statutes, rules, and case law.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explains the basis of the court’s decision.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decides only the issues that need to be decided.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adheres to precedent or clearly explains why it does not.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	
<b>Communication Skills</b>		
Opinion is clearly written and understandable (based on the bulleted standards below).	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describes the issues and the facts necessary to decide the case.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• States conclusions that are clear, readily understandable, and unambiguous.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To the extent practicable, written so that the parties can understand the opinion’s basic logic and reasoning.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	

• Displays proper sentence structure and grammar.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	
<b>Judicial Temperament</b>		
Opinion is attentive to and respectful of parties.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	

**Additional Comments** \_\_\_\_\_

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