

FOX VALLEY COURT WATCH  
QUARTERLY REPORT



Eye on the Domestic Violence Courts

FOURTH QUARTER REPORT  
OCTOBER 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 2016

KANE/KENDALL COUNTY

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The fourth quarter of 2016 produced a total of 67 observations (Kane County: 44 reports; Kendall County: reports). Observation outcomes breakdown as follows:

### Kane County:

- 22 cases were continued.
- 9 cases dismissed, most due to victim or witness continuing to not appear.
- 5 cases resulted in a guilty verdict
- 1 case resulted in a not guilty verdict
- 2 motions were granted
- 2 motions were denied
- 3 cases no action was taken

### Kendall County:

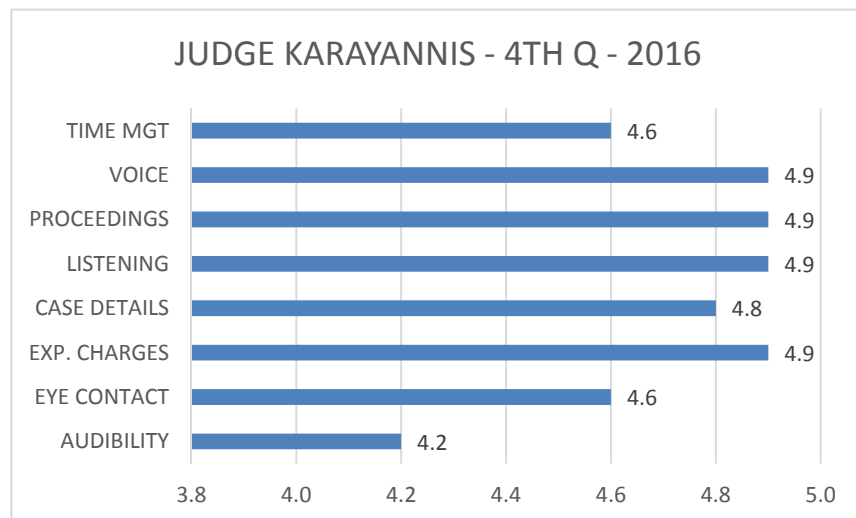
- 11 cases were continued mostly due to victim or witness was not present
- 5 cases were dismissed due to victim or witness continuing to not appear
- 3 cases guilty verdict, including one plea to common battery
- 3 cases not guilty verdict
- 1 motion was granted

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.

Q4-2016	AUDIBILITY	EYE CONTACT	EXPLAIN CHARGES	CASE DETAILS	LISTENING SKILLS	COURT PROCEEDINGS	VOICE TONE	TIME MANAGEMENT
KARAYANNIS	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	4
KARAYANNIS	3	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
KARAYANNIS	4	4	5	5	5	5	5	5
KARAYANNIS	4	4	4	4	5	4	4	4
KARAYANNIS	4	5	5	5	5	4	5	5
KARAYANNIS	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
KARAYANNIS	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	3
KARAYANNIS	3	4	5	4	5	5	5	4
KARAYANNIS	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4
KARAYANNIS	4	4	5	5	5	5	5	5
KARAYANNIS	5	4	4	4	4	5	5	5
KARAYANNIS	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
KARAYANNIS	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
KARAYANNIS	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
AVG SCORE	4.2	4.6	4.9	4.8	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.6

AUDIBILITY	4.2
EYE CONTACT	4.6
EXP. CHARGES	4.9
CASE DETAILS	4.8
LISTENING	4.9
PROCEEDINGS	4.9
VOICE	4.9
TIME MGT	4.6



Comments:

States Attorneys and Defense Attorneys speak too softly

Judge had a terrible cold and was difficult to hear today. Attorneys need to speak up.

A number of jury trials were scheduled. However, I was told that all had been plead out or continued.

Judge was ready at 1:30 but there was a delay. There was a fair amount of downtime between cases.

Most of the conversation seemed to be on task.

Some improvement in level of noise. Judge asked ASA Steger to move his conversation elsewhere.

Judge makes good eye contact with defendant and witnesses.

Several lulls in proceedings as Judge waited for people to be ready.

Judge is clear, precise. Is also firm but respectful of people.

Noisy room with attorneys walking around and talking.

Judge does a good job of managing time. Delays most often caused by ASA staff not being prepared.

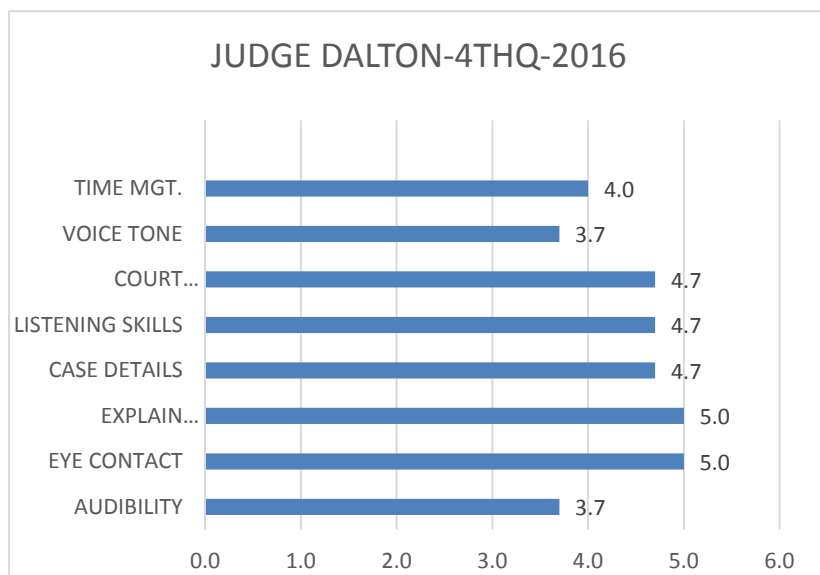
The presence of translators makes it difficult to hear the proceedings. Due to simultaneous talking.

Judge maintains eye contact except during rote recitation of the law or charges.

Judge told everyone that approached the bench to speak up.

4TH Q -2016	AUDIBILIT Y	EYE CONTAC T	EXPLAIN CHARGE S	CASE DETAIL S	LISTENIN G SKILLS	COURT PROCEEDIN G	VOICE TONE	TIME MGT.
DALTON	4	5	5	5	5	5	3	4
DALTON	4	5	5	5	5	5	4	4
DALTON	3	5	5	4	4	4	4	4
AVERAGE SCORE	3.7	5.0	5.0	4.7	4.7	4.7	3.7	4.0

AUDIBILITY	3.7
EYE CONTACT	5.0
EXPLAIN CHARGES	5.0
CASE DETAILS	4.7
LISTENING SKILLS	4.7
COURT PROCEEDING	4.7
VOICE TONE	3.7
TIME MGT.	4.0



**Comments:**

Judge instructed litigants to speak louder.

Judge asked a litigant to leave because he was a previous three time no show.

noisy courtroom due to attorneys going in and out a squeaky door.

Judge frequently held his hand to his ear to improve him hearing attorneys.

Judge could be clearly heard.

Judge threatened one attorney with jail if his behavior did not improve.

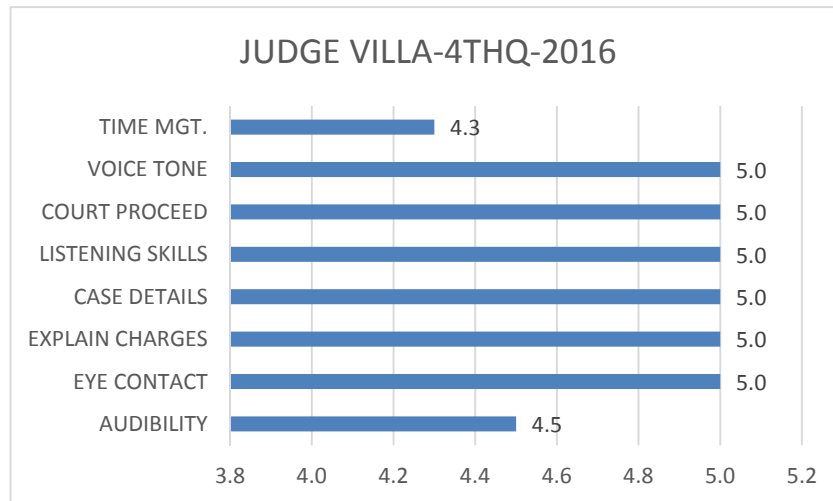
Judge asked observer if he has any questions at the end of the session.

Judge followed the posted docket list.

Judge joked with several people, including prisoners.

4TH Q -2016	AUDIBILITY	EYE CONTACT	EXPLAIN CHARGES	CASE DETAILS	LISTENING SKILLS	COURT PROCEEDING	VOICE TONE	TIME MGT.
VILLA	3	5	5	5	5	5	5	4
VILLA	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4
VILLA	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4
VILLA	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
AVERAGE SCORE	4.5	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	4.3

AUDIBILITY	4.5
EYE CONTACT	5.0
EXPLAIN CHARGES	5.0
CASE DETAILS	5.0
LISTENING SKILLS	5.0
COURT PROCEED	5.0
VOICE TONE	5.0
TIME MGT.	4.3

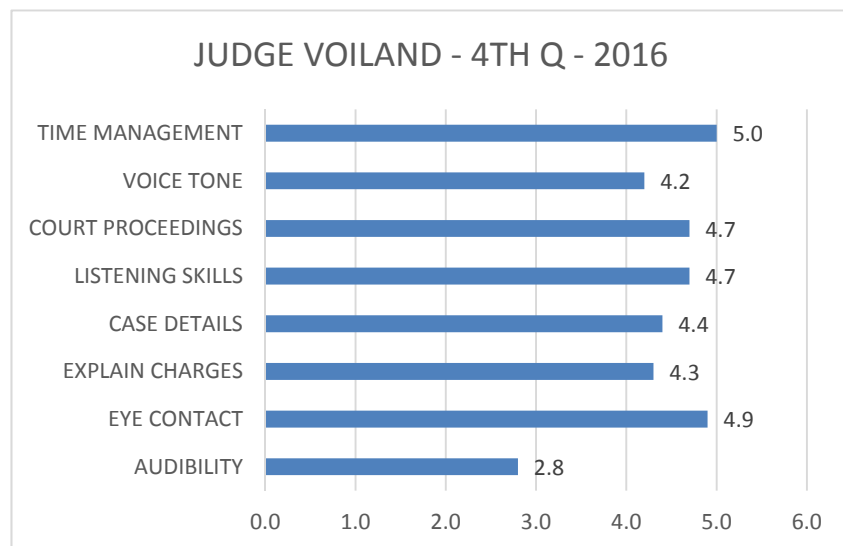


Comments:

Judge subbing for Judge Dalton this week.  
 Very noisy clerk's table due the people checking in. Also attorneys talking at tables.  
 Judge frequently told petitioners what they can and cannot do.  
 Judge commented about new system installation date.  
 Took a short break due to petitioners arriving late.  
 Excellent presentation to petitioner of next steps.  
 25 minute recess taken due to no shows.  
 High school students toured the courtroom and spoke with Judge.  
 A fight occurred outside the courtroom. Security arrested one person.  
 21 OP cases posted on docket.  
 Judge very strong in explaining options and potential outcomes to petitioners.

Q4-2016	AUDIBILITY	EYE CONTACT	EXPLAIN CHARGES	CASE DETAILS	LISTENING SKILLS	COURT PROCEEDINGS	VOICE TONE	TIME MGT.
VOILAND	3	5	5	5	5	5	4	5
VOILAND	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
VOILAND	1	5	4	5	5	5	5	5
VOILAND	3	5	4	4	5	5	5	5
VOILAND	3	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
VOILAND	3	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
VOILAND	1	5	3	3	4	4	1	5
VOILAND	1	4	3	3	3	3	3	5
TOTAL SCORE	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
AVERAGE SCORE	2.8	4.9	4.3	4.4	4.7	4.7	4.2	5.0

AUDIBILITY	2.8
EYE CONTACT	4.9
EXPLAIN CHARGES	4.3
CASE DETAILS	4.4
LISTENING SKILLS	4.7
COURT PROCEEDINGS	4.7
VOICE TONE	4.2
TIME MANAGEMENT	5.0



Comments:

Judge does not use the sound system during the actual trial proceedings.

Seems like he is very respectful, but it is hard to tell this because most of the time he cannot be heard by the gallery.

Cannot hear the proceedings.

Too many side conversations in front of the rail.

Attorneys standing in front of defense table talking, making it difficult to see and hear.

Attorneys and Judge speak so softly that victims and observers cannot hear the proceeding.

Seems like the objective is to speak loud enough to make a record of the proceedings but not for anyone to hear them.

When a change is made to the docket posted outside the courtroom no explanation is given.











