

# HOW TO SURVIVE JURY DUTY

## 5-7 DAYS BEFORE THE TRIAL

Someone receives a jury summons with instructions on when and where to arrive.

## DAY OF THE SUMMONS

Enter through the metal detector, security.

Sign in with a court staff member who will be waiting for the jurors in the lobby.

Jurors are lined up in the hallway and then escorted into the courtroom.

Jury orientation by the judge and bailiff. This may include a DVD presentation on the trial process.

Judge places the jurors under oath.

Attorneys and judge begin questioning groups of jurors from the pool. The plaintiff and defendant's attorneys are entitled to "strikes" or the ability to request certain jurors are not chosen.

The process is repeated until a full jury remains.

## AFTER THE CLOSING STATEMENTS

A judge instructs the jury on the law.

Jurors are escorted to a conference room.

A presiding juror, formerly called the foreman, is selected by popular vote.

The group must reach a unanimous verdict. If the jury has questions, they must be presented on paper to the bailiff and the judge will decide whether the question can be answered.

All potential verdict outcomes are presented at the beginning of deliberation. The presiding juror must sign the form that reflects the unanimous decision of the jury.

The jury is escorted back to the courtroom where the judge reads the decision. The sentencing takes place at a later date.

Attorneys may ask the jury questions after the trial. Jury members may choose whether or not to answer them.

## WHAT YOU NEED TO DO:

- Reference the jury summons mailed to you to see when and where you need to be.
- Call the Justice Center the day before you are scheduled to arrive to confirm the time and date of the trial. (765)747-7734
- Show up! You can bring your phone or other electronic device.

## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

- **Civil trials** typically include six members with one alternate.
- **Criminal trials** for D or Level 6 Felonies typically include six members with one alternate.
- **Criminal trials** for Class C or Level 5 Felonies and above will have 12 jurors and one or two alternates.
- **Pay for summons:** All jurors summoned receive \$15 per day and \$.049 per mile just for appearing.
- **Pay for serving:** Those selected to serve are paid wages from their job or \$40 per day, plus \$0.49 per mile.
- **Safety:** Jury members may request a police escort to and from the parking lot each day.
- **Deliberation:** During deliberation, the jury must always be together in one room, except for restroom visits. If one juror needs to step outside, the whole group must accompany them.