

*The Court recognizes that a summons for jury duty disrupts your daily schedule, and every effort will be made to respect and make the best use of your time.*

## **COURTHOUSE ENTRY & EXIT**

**1. Entrance-** Jurors enter the Courthouse through the Main Courthouse entrance at the front of the building.

**2. Parking-** Jurors may park around Central Park and other legal parking areas adjacent to the Courthouse. **Please put the bottom portion of your Juror Summons on your dashboard to prevent being ticketed.** Those chosen for a trial will be provided with a parking pass for additional days.

**3. Courtroom-** Following entry to the Courthouse, prospective jurors will be directed to the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor courtroom.

**4. Security Issues:** Prospective Jurors will be subject to entrance via metal detection. Jurors are asked not to bring cell phones, pagers, laptops, weapons or any unnecessary metal objects that would impede the entry process.

**5. Website:** Please check our website for any additional information:  
[waynecountypa.gov/court-of-common-pleas](http://waynecountypa.gov/court-of-common-pleas)

## **QUALIFICATIONS OF JURORS** (42 PA.C.S. § 4502)

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1. Must be of required minimum age for voting (18)
2. Must be a U.S. Citizen and a resident of Wayne County.
3. Must be able to read, write, speak and understand the English language
4. Must not have a mental or physical infirmity which would render him/her incapable of efficient jury service
5. Must not have been convicted of a crime punishable by imprisonment for more than one year unless a pardon has been granted

**\*\* All those summoned, are asked to call 570-253-0101, after 4:30 p.m. the Friday before selection day, for important Juror Service updates/messages. The Court will have no updates before this time.**



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COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
22<sup>ND</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
WAYNE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

**Honorable Janine Edwards,**  
President Judge

**Honorable Matthew L. Meagher,**  
Judge

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***FAILURE TO RESPOND TO JUROR  
SUMMONS MAY RESULT IN  
CONTEMPT OF COURT***

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# JUROR SERVICE

An important responsibility of a citizen in a democratic society is serving as a member of a jury. A defendant in a criminal trial and parties in civil actions are entitled to having their cases heard by a jury of their peers. Your participation in the process is the hinge pin upon which the civil and criminal justice system revolves.

Serving on a jury panel is a valuable civic **obligation**. The only statutory exclusions for jury service are:

1. Unable to read, write speak and understand English.
2. Incapable of rendering jury service due to mental or physical infirmity (allowing for ADA standards)
3. Those convicted of crimes punishable by imprisonment for more than 1 year.

Prior law enforcement employment or experience does **not** automatically excuse you from service.

# SELECTION PROCESS

If you are called for Jury duty, you will be asked to initially report for one (1) day. All juries will be selected that day and if you are not chosen for any jury, your service is complete.

If you are selected for a jury, you will be given written instructions and a phone number to call each evening to check on the scheduling of your trial. All trials will be heard during the two-week trial term. Most criminal and civil trials last only 1-3 days and the workday runs from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

In most cases, if selected as a juror you will serve on only one trial. However, depending on the number of prospective jurors appearing and the number of cases to be heard, there is the possibility of sitting on more than one trial. The Court will attempt to accommodate most reasonable requests to be excused however excusals are determined by the nature of the excuse, the amount of business and available jurors

Being sequestered is a possibility, but a rare one.

# VOIR DIRE ?

The process of *voir dire* or “to speak the truth” is the questioning process in which attorneys ask a variety of questions to prospective jurors in order to select an objective and impartial jury. There are no right or wrong answers. Questions are asked to the body of prospective jurors and rarely (except in death penalty cases) are jurors examined, personally and in depth regarding their personal attitudes. The questions are generic and usually deal with:

- Your familiarity with the parties, counsel or knowledge of the crime or civil action.
- Whether you have had similar experiences as the parties involved in the case to be tried.

Jurors are paid \$9.00 per day for each day served. This increases to \$25.00 per day after the third day. Jurors also receive mileage reimbursement to and from their home at the rate of 0.17 per mile.