

JUROR INFORMATION

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION AS IT IS RELEVANT TO YOUR JURY SERVICE:

1. **Directions to the Courthouse**

The Courthouse is located in downtown Vernon, Indiana, on the Courthouse Square. If you are traveling from North Vernon, take Highways 3 and 7 South about one and one-half (1 ½) miles from North Vernon. The Jennings Circuit Court is located on the second floor of the Jennings County Courthouse (not the new Jennings County Government Center).

2. **Parking**

Parking for jurors is available around the Courthouse Square and along side streets, Parking is free. Handicap parking is available on the east and west sides of the Courthouse. The handicap ramp is located on the west side of the Courthouse.

3. **Entry into the Courthouse**

All persons must enter the Courthouse on the west side of the Courthouse. This is the side facing downtown Vernon. A handicapped entrance is on this side as well. All persons entering the Courthouse must pass through the security checkpoint.

4. **Public Transportation**

There is no public transportation available in Vernon. Taxi service is available in North Vernon.

5. **Compensation**

Jennings County provides compensation for jurors for their service. Currently, the rate for jury service is \$15.00 per day (or any portion thereof) as a prospective juror, and if you are selected the rate of compensation is \$40.00 per day (or any portion thereof), Mileage is paid at .49 cents per mile.

6. **Attire**

Dress appropriately for being in a courtroom. Business attire is appropriate, as is casual business attire. Do not report in muscle shirts, cutoff shorts, wearing hats, flip-flops, shirts with messages, or in any attire, which is inappropriate for a courtroom.

7. **Auxiliary Aids and Services**

If you are in need of special assistance, hearing assistance devices or have special needs, please advise the Bailiff at your earliest opportunity.

8. **Juror Exemption**

You are exempted from jury service if you have completed a term of jury service (that means you were actually selected and served as a juror, not just showed up but were not selected) within the twenty four (24) months immediately preceding the date of the summons. If you believe you are exempt, please contact the Circuit Court Bailiff as soon as possible to claim your exemption.

9. **Juror Safety and Privacy**

Personal information about you that is contained in your written responses to the Juror Questionnaire will not be released to persons other than the parties and their counsel. Your Questionnaire will remain confidential, consistent with their intended use and consistent with the constitutional and statutory rights of the parties.

10. **Introduction to the Case**

Once the prospective jurors are seated, the Judge will provide you with an introduction of the proceedings. You will be:
Introduced to the participants
Informed as to the nature of the case
Informed as to the applicable standard or burden of proof
Informed as to the presumption of innocence in a criminal case
Informed as to the appropriate means by which jurors may address their private concerns
Informed as to the appropriate standard of juror conduct
Informed as to the anticipated course of the proceedings

(over)

Informed as to the rules regarding challenges to prospective jurors
Informed as to the number of jurors that will be selected for the particular case
Informed as to the anticipated length of the proceedings

11. **Juror Trial Notebooks**

If you are selected as a prospective juror, you may be given a Trial Notebook. It will be used by you to keep your notes, place given instructions, witness and exhibit lists and related information regarding the trial. At the conclusion of the trial, the Court will retain your Trial Notebook, but you may retain your notes.

12. **Responsibilities of Employer (IND.CODE §33-28-4-8.3)**

A. If a person:

1. is summoned to serve as a juror; and
2. notifies the person's employer of the jury summons within a reasonable period:
 - a. after receiving the jury summons; and
 - b. before the person appears for jury service;

the person's employer may not subject the person to any adverse employment action as the result of the person's jury service.

B. An employee may not be required or requested to use annual vacation or sick leave for time spent:

1. responding to a summons for jury service;
2. participating in the jury selection process; or
3. serving on a jury.

This subsection does not require an employer to provide annual vacation or sick leave to an employee who is not otherwise entitled to these benefits.

13. **Inclement Weather**

In the event of an unusually large snow on the first day you are to report, call the Court at (812) 352-3082 (after 7:00 a.m.) to check on the status of the trial.

14. **Entry into the Courthouse**

All persons must enter the Courthouse on the west side of the Courthouse. This is the side facing downtown Vernon. A handicapped entrance is on this side as well. All persons entering the Courthouse must pass through the security checkpoint.

15. **Cellular Telephones**

Cellular telephones are permitted into the Courthouse as long as they are silenced or placed on quiet or vibrate mode.