



Spokane County Court House

SUPERIOR COURT FOR SPOKANE COUNTY

Juror Frequently Asked Questions During COVID-19 Pandemic

- 1) **Are jury trials still needed?** Yes, they are. Jury trials are a keystone of the justice system. They are critical to fair hearings and a key constitutional guarantee (Sixth Amendment, U.S. Constitution) for all.
- 2) **Will jury service be in person or via virtual means?** Jury service will be in person. There are many reasons for this, including constitutional rights of the accused, access to attorney presentations, access to evidence/exhibits and to facilitate juror discussion during deliberations.
- 3) **What if I am in the high-risk category or I am an essential worker? Can I be excused or rescheduled for jury service?** Yes, you can. Follow the instructions on your summons to apply for these options.
- 4) **Will the courthouse be clean and safe?** Yes, the courthouse, courtrooms and jury deliberation rooms will be cleaned thoroughly daily. Protecting the health and safety of the public and courthouse staff is essential.
- 5) **Will the courtroom and jury rooms adhere to the CDC precautionary measures of social distancing?** Yes, the court will adhere to the CDC precautionary measures. Jury positions will be marked in the courtrooms as well as the jury deliberation spaces.
- 6) **Will I have to bring a mask and gloves?** Jurors/prospective jurors will be required to wear face coverings. If you desire to bring and wear your own personal protective equipment, you may do so. The court will also have masks available.
- 7) **Will the courthouse have hand sanitizer dispensers and hand washing areas available?** Yes, hand sanitizers and hand washing areas are available in the courthouse.
- 8) **What if I feel unsafe or sick after reporting to jury service?** Contact a member of Jury Management immediately.
- 9) **What if I feel sick the day I am to report for jury service, do I stay home?** If you feel sick, stay home and contact Jury Management for instructions.
- 10) **Will coffee and reading materials be available?** At this time, for CDC precautionary reasons, the court will not be offering coffee or reading materials. Please feel free to bring your own coffee and reading materials, and dispose of them when finished. You may also wish to bring your own bottled water.