

County Court at Law No. 1, Hon. Corinne Mason
County Court at Law No. 2, Hon. Barnett Walker
County Court at Law No. 3, Hon. Lance S. Baxter
County Court at Law No. 4, Hon. David Rippel
County Court at Law No. 5, Hon. Dan Wilson
County Court at Law No. 6, Hon. Jay A. Bender
County Court at Law No. 7, Hon. David Waddill
County Probate Court No. 1, Hon. Weldon Copeland
199th Judicial District, Hon. Angela Tucker
219th Judicial District, Hon. Jennifer Edgeworth



296th Judicial District, Hon. John Roach, Jr.
366th Judicial District, Hon. Tom Nowak
380th Judicial District, Hon. Benjamin Smith
401st Judicial District, Hon. George Flint
416th Judicial District, Hon. Andrea Thompson
417th Judicial District, Hon. Cynthia Wheless
429th Judicial District, Hon. Jill Willis
469th Judicial District, Hon. Piper McCraw
470th Judicial District, Hon. Emily A. Miskel
471st Judicial District, Hon. Andrea Bouressa

RE: Your Upcoming Jury Service

Dear Prospective Jurors:

This letter is in addition to the Summons directing you to appear for Jury Service at the Russell A. Steindam Courthouse at 2100 Bloomdale Rd., McKinney, Texas 75071. These will be some of the first jury trials we have undertaken since the advent of the Coronavirus pandemic. We want to assure you that every reasonable precaution will be taken to enhance the health and safety of the jury, the parties, the lawyers and the Court staff during jury selection and the jury trial to follow.

So that you won't be surprised when you arrive, please be aware of the following:

- . Once you enter the building and pass through the initial security screening, you will be directed to the central jury room and seated to achieve reasonable social distancing;
- . Masks will be available, or you may wear your own when you enter the Central Jury Room. Until the final jury is actually selected, seated and sworn, everyone appearing as a prospective juror will be strongly encouraged to wear a mask;
- . Please limit the number of personal items that you bring. You will not be permitted to place personal items on surrounding chairs;
- . Hand sanitizer (alcohol based) will be available to you at multiple locations inside the courthouse and Central Jury Room, and you may ask Court Security Officers to make it available at your seat, once you are selected to the final jury and seated in the courtroom;
- . Those selected for this jury should know that the six (6) to fourteen (14) jurors will be seated during the trial to achieve reasonable social distancing.

If you:

- a. have been diagnosed by a licensed physician as having Coronavirus anytime within the past 30 days;
- b. are actively caring for a family member or loved one who has tested positive for the Coronavirus, or
- c. are now in self-quarantine status and that status will continue during the date on your jury summons

Then,

in any of these situations: please immediately advise the jury clerks at 972-548-4315.

Before your jury service, you will be asked to complete an online Jury Service Covid-19 Pre-Screening Questionnaire which can be found here: [COVID-19 questionnaire](#) If you do not have access to complete this online, you may complete it in person when you arrive for your jury service.

The longest we anticipate you being required to serve is 5 days, but it is our expectation that the average length of service will be 1-3 days. That being the case, if you have a scheduled surgical procedure for yourself or a dependent that can't be rescheduled, or if you have some other pre-existing obligation that would make it extremely difficult and create a real hardship for you to be here as requested, then you should immediately advise the jury clerks at 972-548-4315 as soon as possible.

Please be aware that the right to trial by jury is one of the cornerstones of our democracy, and jury trials necessarily involve sacrifice from those citizens called upon to serve. This has always been true, but it is especially true during these unique and trying times. It is our personal conviction that jury service is the second highest form of public service that any American can perform (second only to service in the Armed Forces). The right to trial by jury has been enshrined within the Seventh Amendment to our U. S. Constitution since 1791, and it was one of the stated principles in the Declaration of Independence which fueled our struggle to become an independent nation. Only those with extreme hardships should seek to be excused based on pre-existing obligations.

It is vital that you appear and present yourself for jury service as summonsed; however, the Courts want you to know that we are mindful of these challenging times and we will take every reasonable precaution to maintain your health as well as that of the parties, lawyers and Court staff during this upcoming trial.

We hope this letter is helpful and informative, and we look forward to seeing you in our courthouse soon.

Respectfully,

The Collin County District and County Court Judges