

COVID-19 SPECIAL JUROR FAQ'S

Why is the Court summoning jurors during a pandemic? In the midst of these uncertain times, the Crawford County Judicial Center is working hard keeping the public and the staff safe. We are taking steps to focus on your safety and well-being as a juror during the public health emergency from COVID-19. In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania we need to be looking ahead to the future when we will be easing up, to a degree, on the current restrictions. The right to a jury trial is a fundamental constitutional requirement of our form of government.

What steps are being taken to ensure health and safety standards? The Court takes public health and safety seriously. Jurors will be spread out to maintain social distancing guidelines. Frequent, rigorous cleaning and sanitizing protocols are in place. Access to certain common areas and amenities (coffee maker, refrigerators, water coolers) may be restricted. Face masks may be required. Hand sanitizer is available.

Are masks being provided to jurors? We ask all jurors to bring their own masks, as they may be required upon entrance or a in a courtroom. If an unvaccinated juror arrives without a mask, one will be provided.

What if I have symptoms of illness? If you are experiencing flu like symptoms (fever, cough or shortness of breath), have been diagnosed with COVID-19 in the last 30 days, been directed to quarantine/self-monitor for COVID-19 by a medical authority or employer, or are a caregiver for/have had close contact with a person diagnosed with COVID-19 in the last 30 days, please DO NOT report for service; instead, you must contact the **Crawford County Court Administrator's Office, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., by calling (814) 333-7498.**

What if I fail (refuse) to appear without explanation? A Judge has many options to address failure to appear, including contempt. However, our Judges are certainly aware of the current health situation. Please contact the Court Administrator's Office at (814) 333-7498 rather than fail to appear without explanation.