

GENERAL FAQ'S

What should I wear? There is no special dress code for jurors except good taste and common sense. Clothing such as t-shirts with offensive language or pictures, halter tops and shorts are not permitted. Please remember that the parties in a case will look to jurors for justice, and that they are more likely to put their faith in the system if jurors dress appropriately.

What security measures will I go through upon entering the Judicial Center? Upon entering the Judicial Center, you will be met by screening personnel who will ask you to remove belts that have metal buckles, and empty all articles in your pockets and place them in plastic bins. You will then be asked to pass through a walk-through metal detector. (**Note:** some shoes containing metal reinforcement support or steel toes will activate the detector). If you activate the walk-through detector you may be asked to step forward and a Deputy Sheriff will use a hand-held metal detector wand. You will experience some delay due to the high volume of people trying to enter at the same time; therefore, please attempt to limit bringing metal items into the Judicial Center.

If you have medical implants, prosthetics, body piercing, or devices that contain metal, please advise the screener at the security station. You will be allowed to avoid the walk-through metal detector, if you choose, but the hand-held detector will be utilized.

What hours will we work? Our normal hours for trials are from 9:00 o'clock a.m. to 4:30 p.m. There is generally a one hour break for lunch and a short recess during both the morning and afternoon sessions. If we need to hold court a little later into the day, the judge will try to tell you in advance.

What about meals? If you are serving on a jury, jurors must eat together and will be provided meals at County expense. Otherwise, you are on your own. You may go home if you live nearby, or you may bring a lunch, purchase items from the vending machines in the Judicial Center, or eat at a nearby restaurant.

What do I get paid? When do I get paid? Juror pay is set by the Legislature at \$9 a day for the first 3 days of service and \$25 a day for any additional days. Mileage is also set by the Legislature and is reimbursed at the rate of \$.17 per mile. The Crawford County Finance Office will mail checks to jurors shortly after your service has been completed.

Will I be able to use my cell phone, computer, or other electronic device while serving as a juror? According to Pa law, jurors may not use a cell phone, computer, or other electronic device with communication capabilities while in attendance at trial or during deliberations. Jurors may not use these devices to obtain or disclose information about a case in which they have been chosen as prospective or selected jurors. Cell phones, computers, or other electronic devices may be used during breaks or recesses, but may never be used to obtain or disclose information about

the case. NOTE: A juror who violates this rule may be found in contempt of court and sanctioned. Sanctions may include, but are not limited to, the confiscation of the electronic device.

What about my job? What protection do I have while serving as a juror? By law, you cannot be fired, threatened or otherwise coerced because you have been called for jury duty. Any employer who violates this law is guilty of a crime. If an employer penalizes an employee for serving on jury duty, the employee may also bring a civil action against the employer to recover lost wages and benefits as well as attorney fees. However, there is no legal requirement that an employer pay an employee his or her normal wages while the employee is serving jury duty. Many employers compensate employees so that the jurors suffer no monetary loss, but if your employer does not provide paid leave for jury duty, this by itself does not excuse you from serving.

Is there an exemption due to my age? PA Law does not exclude persons due to their age. However, jurors over the age of 75 may be excused upon request.