

PETIT JURY INFORMATION

In a criminal trial, the petit jury will decide if the defendant is guilty or not guilty of the alleged crime. In Ohio, the jury must find the defendant “guilty” or “not guilty” by a unanimous vote.

In a civil trial, the petit jury will decide the facts, which are in dispute.

HOW LONG COULD YOU BE ELIGIBLE FOR JURY DUTY

Petit jurors are required to serve for a one-month period. It will NOT be continuous. On the contrary, it will be intermittent and we will attempt to limit your service to being seated in one trial during that month period. However, on occasion it may become necessary to recall you during the month if an unusual number of petit jurors are required for a case. **You will be notified by the Court of the exact date and time set for your service.**

EXPECTED LENGTH OF TRIAL

The average jury trial length is two to three days. However, some jury trials do last longer. (You may call the Deputy Jury Commissioner to determine how long the trial you have been summoned for may last.)

WHEN TO REPORT FOR JURY SELECTION

When a case has been set for trial, **you will be mailed a summons that will assign you a date and time to report during your specified month. The summons will be mailed to you one to two weeks in advance of your assigned date and time to report.** It sometimes happens that a case is settled or dismissed. It usually is not possible to set another case for trial on such short notice. As you can see, it is certainly very important that the petit jurors be informed of such changes.

WHERE TO REPORT FOR JURY DUTY

The Miami County Common Pleas Court is located on the third floor in the Safety Building, 201 W. Main Street in Troy, Ohio. When exiting the elevator, turn right and be seated in one of the blue chairs at the end of the hall. Court personnel will accompany you to the proper area.

JURY ANSWERING SERVICE-CONFIRM REPORT DATE AND TIME

For our part, we have made provisions to help you keep informed. The Court uses a recorded message to inform you, the evening before your jury service, if there has been a change in your report date or time. You only need to dial the system and listen to the message. The message will be available after 3:00 p.m. on the day before the trial is to start. If there is no message, you must report as scheduled. The jury answering service telephone number is 440-5993. You cannot receive the message from any other number.