How are jurors selected?

In Indiana, persons are selected at random from a jury pool complied by the State of Indiana using information from the bureau of Motor Vehibles and the Indiana Department of Revenue.

What are the requirements to serve as a juror?

You must be: A citizen of the United States, at lease 18 years of age, a resident of Monroe County, able to communicate in English, not suffering from a physical or mental disability that prevents you from performing your duties as a juror in a satisfactory manner, not under guardianship because of mental incapacity or not a person who has had your right to vote revoked and not yet reinstated as the result of a felony conviction. Note: Law enforcement officers are exempt from serving in criminal jury trials. They can serve in civil trials.

What are the different types of jury trials?

Criminal: A case in which the State of Indiana (Prosecutor) alleges the defendant (accused) committed a criminal offense. Civil: A suit designed to enforce a right or gain repayment for a wrong done to a person or party by another person or party. These cases generally involve money damages.

What is the difference between eligible for duty and serving as a juror?

Eligible for Duty: If you receive a notice stating you are eligible for jury duty in a particular month, you will be required to phone nightly the jury notification line (812) 349-JURY (5879). Serving as a juror: You have been chosen to sit on a panel and render your opinion as a guilt or innocence (Criminal) or responsibility for damages (Civil).

If my juror number is read on the notification line, what does that mean?

That means you are required to report to the Justice Building at 301 N. College Avenue at the time indicated on the message line. You will be met by the Jury Coordinator who will provide you with the additional information regarding your day. Prior to your arrival, please acquaint yourself with the Justice Building Security Restrictions.

How long does a juror have to serve?

In Monroe County, you are eligible to serve once in a 2 year time period. In Monroe County, you are only required to be available for one month. If you call in during your month but are not called for service, the Judges of Monroe County consider your month of calling as service. You are not considered eligible to serve again for another 2 full years. Jurors serve on only one trial during their month of eligibility and most trials are completed with 2-3 days.

Are there any exemptions from jury service?

Yes. As of January 1, 2010, you may request exemption if: 1. You are 75 years of age or older OR 2. Have a medical excuse (requires Doctor Statement)

Where do I park if I'm Required to report for jury service?

You will be given parking instructions from the Jury Coordinator prior to your arrival at the Justice Building.

Do I get paid as a juror?

If you report for jury duty and you are not kept to serve you will be paid \$15.00 mileage that is set by state statute. If you are chosen to serve you will be paid \$40.00 per day + mileage that is set by state statute. You will receive a check in the mail for your service within a few weeks after the completion of the trial. Child care is not paid nor provided.

How many jurors are required?

To sit on a panel you must have 12 jurors for a criminal case (Murder, Level 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 Felony). If you have a lesser criminal case such as a Level 6 Felony or a Misdemeanor offense then only 6 jurors are necessary. A civil case requires 6. Generally for a 12 panel jury 36 potential jurors are asked to report for jury duty. A 6 panel jury generally results in 18 people reporting for possible service. A judge may request additional jurors depending on the trial.

How many jurors must agree on a verdict?

Criminal trial: Murder or Level 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 Felony- must be unanimous Criminal trial: Level 6 Felony or Misdemeanor- must be unanimous. Civil: 6 jurors- must be unanimous UNLESS stipulated prior to deliberation.

Does the Court provide lunch for jurors?

Although the Court does not provide lunch for jurors (except during deliberations) there will be a lunch break and jurors will have ample opportunity to dine in or carry out from many downtown restaurants.

How can my family reach me if there is an emergency at home while I'm on jury service?

In case of a family emergency, please contact the Office of Court Administration (812) 349-2966

I have additional question or concerns about jury service. Who do I ask?

Please call the Jury Coordinator at 812-349-2616.