

JUROR ORIENTATION

Welcome to Poulsbo Municipal Court. Today may be one of those “hurry up and wait” kind of days. Please be assured that we are going to do everything possible to make your time here as useful as we can, and if in fact you do experience a delay, there is usually a good reason for it. Circumstances may prevent the Judge or attorneys on the case from explaining the reasons why until the conclusion of the trial. In the meantime, we would like to share some information about the Court, City Hall and jury duty with you.

You will be escorted to the Jury Room. There is a restroom in the jury room. Please use this restroom only.

Please wear your badge at all times. This enables others to know you are a juror, and they can avoid inappropriate contact with you.

Cellular phones and newspapers are not permitted in the jury room. Please lock them in your car. Gum is not allowed in the courtroom. Hats must be removed upon entering the courtroom.

There is no smoking in the building. Smokers may go out the side door of the jury room to smoke.

Please do not speak to anyone in the hallway or standing outside the building. There may be witnesses, defendant or attorneys present with whom you should not speak.

When returning from a break, please always return to the court clerk’s desk.

If you need anything please see one of the court clerks.

MEAL BREAKS: You’re welcome to eat your lunch in the jury room if you so desire. Places relatively close to City Hall: Please see map on back side of this form.

EARLY ARRIVAL: If you arrive prior to your assigned time, you are welcome to grab a cup of coffee somewhere and return. Once checked in you must remain in the jury room. There is a Guide to Washington Courts and other reading material in the jury room. We encourage you to read the Guide and familiarize yourself with our courts. Please leave them here for others to use. We will show a short film on the Judicial Process.

EMPLOYMENT NOTIFICATION: Please let us know if you need a note for your employer verifying your jury duty.

JUROR SELECTION: Ultimately, six jurors will be selected. All prospective jurors are questioned by the Judge, the prosecutor and the defense attorney. Each side may challenge three jurors and need not state a reason (preemptory challenge.) When both have exercised their three preemptory challenges the remaining six jurors are impaneled. Everyone else on the panel is free to leave, and has completed jury service for the year.

Jury duty is an important job and we appreciate the importance you place on it. Any further questions about jury duty should be directed to the court staff.

THANK YOU.