

Information for Jurors

In order to be eligible to serve as a trial juror, you must be

- 18 years of age or older,
- A resident for at least 30 days of the state and of the city, town or county in which you are called for jury service,
- A citizen of the United States.

Effective October 1, 2007 jurors are randomly selected from a combined list of registered voters, licensed drivers, and holders of Montana ID cards. The jury service term for the Twentieth Judicial District, Lake County lasts for one year, from September 1st through August 31st.

When you are selected for the one-year jury term you will be given notice by mail and asked to complete a jury questionnaire. Montana law requires that you complete the juror questionnaire and return it to the Clerk of Court within seven (7) days of receiving it.

If you believe jury service would cause you undue hardship, you may complete the Affidavit for Excusal from Jury Service that accompanies the questionnaire, the affidavit must be signed. Your Affidavit will be reviewed a District Judge.

You must fill out the entire questionnaire even if you request to be excused from jury service. If you have submitted your questionnaire without any excuse being offered, we will assume that you are ready and willing to serve as a juror.

When you are needed to serve on a specific trial, you will be notified of the date and time by mail. Many times after you have been selected for a particular case, the case is settled before the time you are ordered to report. We do have a pre-recorded message phone so you may access the number seven (7) days a week, 24 hours a day, to see if the trial you are summoned for is still set. It is very **IMPORTANT** that you call **883-0044** any time prior to trial or **after 5:00 p.m. the night before** the trial and the pre-recorded message will let you know if you still need to appear.