

Important Information Regarding Jury Service at the Bennington Superior Court Criminal Division

Juror Reporting Instructions

Call the juror phone at 802-447-2727 after 5:00pm the night before you are scheduled for jury service for reporting instructions.

Location and Parking

We are located at 150 Veterans Memorial Drive, Bennington, VT. in the modular units to the north of the current State Office Complex. The State Office Building in is the midst of construction and the parking situation at the complex is at a minimum.

Handicapped parking is on the campus, but most parking is located at the Deer Park. There is a path to the Building. Additional parking may be available at the rear of the temporary buildings.

Please do not park in the lot designated for the Chamber of Commerce or the Staff parking lot on the west side (court side) of the Building.

Enter the courthouse using the ramp to your left as you face the building.

Time Commitment Expectations

There is a "jury draw" once each month when the complete panel of jurors meets for one day to get assignments for specific trials. Jury trials vary in length from one day to several days. The final day of a trial can go into evening hours due to deliberations.

What To Expect at a Jury Draw

Court staff will greet you and present a general orientation, answer questions and discuss your concerns. Then the judge will discuss our system of justice and answer questions. The rest of the day will be spent drawing juries from the panel for trials. Plan to stay at the court until 4:30pm.

Emergencies/Reporting Absences/Excuses

If you have an emergency which affects your jury service, please call 802- 447-2727 and speak with a court staff person.

Medical excuses are given first priority. A note from your physician must accompany all medical requests. The court always works with you to plan around scheduled appointments, vacations, or business hardship. We try to minimize the disruption that jury service might cause you.

Lunch

Lunch is normally one hour. You may choose to go out or you may bring your lunch.

Miscellaneous

Please note that anyone entering the building may be screened by a court security officer. You may not bring weapons into the courthouse.

Due to the nature of jury service and the court process itself, there are often periods of waiting. You may bring reading material to pass the time. There are brief recesses throughout the day. No childcare is available.

Smokers will be directed to a designated area outside the building.

Other Concerns

If you have any special needs please bring them to the court clerk's attention. All electronic devices, including cell phones, must be turned off while court is in session.

Hearing assistance devices can be made available.