

Important Information Regarding Jury Service at the Franklin Superior Court Criminal and Civil Divisions

Juror Reporting Instructions

Call the juror phone at 802-527-4016 after 5:00pm the night before you are scheduled for jury service for reporting instructions.

Location and Parking

We are located at the Franklin Criminal/Family Courthouse, 36 Lake Street, St. Albans VT 05478. Follow Route 7 into downtown St. Albans. Turn onto Lake Street. The Courthouse is located one block down on the left. A map may be found at www.vermontjudiciary.org Click on Travel Directions in the blue box and follow prompts to Franklin Criminal Court.

There is limited free parking by the Courthouse. If the spaces next to the courthouse are full, go to parking lot #2 directly behind the courthouse. We will issue you a parking certificate so you can park in the lot at no expense. You must pick up the certificate at "jury receiving". Put the certificate on the vehicle's dash so you will not be issued a parking ticket.

Enter the Courthouse through the door on the east side of the building marked "JURY RECEIVING."

Time Commitment Expectations

Your jury term will consist of 2 jury drawing days. For each draw day the court sets aside 3-4 trial days to fill. Most trials last one day. It is unlikely you will be picked for every trial. You will receive notice of the remaining jury drawing date at orientation.

After initial orientation, jury draws begin. Plan to stay at court until at least 4:30pm.

What To Expect at a Jury Draw

Court staff will greet you and present a general orientation, answer your questions and discuss your concerns. The judge will then discuss our system of justice and answer your questions. The rest of the day will be spent drawing juries from your panel for

specific trials. Plan to stay at court until at least 4:30pm.

Emergencies/Reporting Absences/Excuses

If you have an emergency which affects your jury service, please call 802 524-7997 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 and eat in the jury room.

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.