

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

Juror Reporting Instructions

Call the juror phone at 802-487-0778 after 5:00pm the night before you are scheduled for jury service for reporting instructions.

Location and Parking

We are located in the State Courthouse Building, 217 Main Street, Newport, VT., or in the County Courthouse Building, 247 Main Street, Newport, VT. The buildings across from the Municipal Building and on the corner of Main and Second Streets.

Please park at the rear of the Municipal Building on the third level where there are no parking meters. There is also parking on School and Summer Streets.

Please do **not** park in the lots of next door businesses or behind the courthouse buildings as your vehicle will be towed at your expense.

Time Commitment Expectations

The average length of a trial is 1-3 days. In some instances, the trial may last longer.

Unless otherwise instructed, court is in session Monday through Friday from 8:00am to 4:30pm and you should plan to be present for the entire day.

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 an illness or emergency prevents your attendance, please call the Clerk's office at 802-334-3325 as near to 8:00am as possible.

Medical excuses are given 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. There are convenience stores with deli lunches available.

Miscellaneous

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

You may receive emergency telephone calls in the Clerk's Office, 802-334-3325.

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.

