

Justice in Kansas

Talking Points—

The Jury System

- The jury system is an important part of the Kansas court system. Persons accused of crimes have an absolute right to a jury trial and parties to a civil suit may choose to have their case decided by a jury.
- Jury lists are made up of names selected from the voter registration list and driver's license lists. The names are placed into a computer and when a jury panel is needed, jurors are selected by number at random.
- Juror summonses are then sent to those persons whose names are drawn, and they may be called into court to serve on a trial jury. The pay for jury services is small, but the responsibility is great.
- About 95 percent of all jury trials in the world take place in the United States. Those who have served as jurors often express a feeling of pride and respect for our system of justice and an appreciation of the chance to be part of the judicial process.
- Fulfilling one's civil responsibility to answer the call is second in importance only to the call to aid in times of war.
- Efforts to streamline and update the jury system are continuing, with the aim of reducing the amount of time that a citizen is asked to contribute to jury service.
- The opportunity to serve on a jury in our local court allows you to become a better-informed and more responsible citizen, and to learn more about your courts and the law.