

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

Juror Reporting Instructions

Call the juror phone at 802-651-1942 after 5:00pm the night before you are scheduled for jury service for reporting instructions.

Directions

Parking for Your First Day

The courthouse is located at 32 Cherry Street, Suite 300, Burlington, VT.

There is a multi-level parking garage located on Cherry Street- Downtown Parking Garage (closest to the lake) directly across from the Costello Courthouse, in between the Marriott and the Hotel Vermont. Jurors will park at the Downtown Parking Garage on the panel's report dates to include the first date of jury service. Parking elsewhere will not be reimbursed.

Where to report

Jurors Entrance: (Do not enter in front of the building) After leaving the parking garage, cross Cherry Street and go to the side of the courthouse (where the garage doors are) and there will be a side entrance door. Press button outside to alert court officers you are here for jury service.

Time Commitment Expectations

You are to serve on no more than three trials during your term of jury service. Each trial lasts on the average of one or two days. The cases you will hear involve alleged criminal acts.

The final day of a trial can go into evening hours due to deliberations.

What You Can Expect at a Jury Draw

Court staff will greet you and present a general orientation, answer your questions and discuss your concerns. You will then meet the judge with whom you will be working during your term. She or he will 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 illness or emergency affects your jury service, please call 802-651-1753 by 8:00am and speak with Jessica Fay.

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.

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.

Lunch

Lunch is normally one hour. You may choose to go out or you may bring your lunch and eat in the jury room.

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.