



United States District Court

EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

JUAN R. SÁNCHEZ
CHIEF JUDGE

UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE
601 MARKET STREET
SUITE 14613
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19106

Dear Prospective Juror:

You are receiving this letter because you have been summoned to report for jury service in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, jury trials in our court were suspended for many months to protect the health and safety of all participants, including jurors. As conditions in the counties in our district have improved, we have resumed this essential function, holding jury trials on a limited basis with precautions in place to protect health and safety.

Jurors perform a vital role in our system of justice. The right to a jury trial is one of the fundamental rights protected in our Constitution. Jurors are constitutional officers who serve as ultimate decisionmakers in criminal and civil cases, applying the law as instructed by the judge to the evidence presented in the case. Even in these challenging times, the participation of jurors is critical to the administration of justice.

As we move forward, we want to assure you that the health and safety of everyone who comes into the courthouse is our first priority. We are closely monitoring the guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, and state and local public health authorities. Based on the available guidance, we have implemented a number of precautions to protect health and safety. These precautions are regularly reviewed and may be adjusted in light of the evolving public health guidance. Some of the precautions currently in place are as follows:

1. **Face Masks:** Everyone entering the James A. Byrne U.S. Courthouse is required to wear a face mask. You will be required to wear your mask at all times while you are in the building. If you arrive at the building and realize that you forgot your mask, a Court Security Officer will provide you one.
2. **Public Space:** All public areas and jury rooms of the Courthouse have been outfitted with hand sanitizer stations.
3. **Parking,** as always, will be reimbursed if you would prefer to drive over taking public transportation.
4. All court spaces are being thoroughly cleaned at regular intervals.

We continue to monitor the situation in our district and make any necessary adjustments as we perform this important constitutional function in partnership with our jurors. Thank you for your patience, your cooperation, and, most of all, your service.

Sincerely

Juan R. Sánchez
Chief Judge