

JURY INFORMATION

How can I be excused from jury duty?

You may contact the Magistrate to excuse you from jury service if you can show good and sufficient reason why you cannot serve.

Is anyone exempt from jury service?

*You may choose to serve, or not to serve if you are over sixty-five years old, or if you have served as a juror within the past calendar year on a Magistrates' Court jury. Persons who are **disqualified** (not allowed to serve) from serving as a juror are a person who has been convicted in a state or federal court of a crime punishable by more than one year of imprisonment and his civil rights have not been restored, a person who has less than a sixth grade education, a person who cannot read, write or understand the English language, a persons who is not a U.S. citizen and a person who is not a resident of the county for which they have been summoned. Further, no constable, commissioned law enforcement officer, county officer or any person employed within the walls of any courthouse is eligible to serve as a juror.*

Q: Will I be paid for serving as a juror? What about mileage?

You will be compensated at a rate of \$10 per day and 30 cents per mile (round-trip) from your home to the courthouse. Each juror will be issued a voucher pay bill. You will need to take the voucher pay bill to the Newberry County Treasurer's Office to collect your pay.

Q: Will I be paid even if I'm not picked to serve on the jury panel?

Yes, each juror appearing at jury selection will be compensated even if they are not selected to serve on a jury panel in a trial.

Q: How should I dress for court?

It is not necessary for you to "dress up". However, the Judiciary does require appropriate attire in the courtroom; specifically no tank tops, shorts, hats, ball caps or flip-flops are allowed.

Q: How long will I have to serve as a juror?

Except in unusual circumstances, jurors in Magistrate Court are required to serve only one day.

Q: How do I know if the jury trial has been postponed?

You need to call the magistrate office, at (803) 321-2144, the day before the scheduled jury trial between the hours of 9 AM and 4 PM.