

Jury Service

The Clatsop County Circuit Court website maintains a page (*see link below*) with complete information about your rights and obligations pertaining to jury service – how to report, who to call, how to request a deferral – as well as a juror handbook, the jury schedule, even a 19-minute "Justice for All" orientation video filmed in Washington County and introduced by former Oregon Chief Justice Paul DeMuniz.

America is almost alone in the world in believing in the intersection of democracy and law and that by selecting 12 disinterested people to settle cases, we seek the wisdom we think dwells in the hearts and minds of ordinary people.

When you participate in jury service, you are upholding two Constitutional Amendments at one time: the Sixth and the Fourteenth.

The Sixth Amendment:

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the Assistance of Counsel for his defense.

The relevant Due Process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment:

...nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

("Due Process" refers to the administration of justice -- a balancing of enforcing the laws of the land while protecting the legal rights of citizens.)

Related Links

- [Clatsop County Circuit Court - Jury Service](#)