

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

In the Matter of:)
)
ESTABLISHMENT OF THE) Administrative Order
COMMITTEE TO STUDY JURY) No. 2001- 69
PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES)
_____)

Juries play a fundamental role in our judicial process. Often, jury service is a citizen's first or only encounter with the courts and, therefore, can be an experience which shapes an individual's perception of the justice system, for better or worse. Regrettably, more and more individuals are trying to avoid jury service. This is a concern to the judicial department because without a jury system that ensures diversity and representativeness of our society, public trust and confidence in the justice system is jeopardized.

In accordance with Arizona Code of Judicial Administration §1-104, the Chief Justice may establish advisory committees to the Arizona Judicial Council to assist the Council in carrying out its responsibilities. Therefore, on June 4, 2001, in keeping with prior Supreme Court efforts and the Court's continuing desire to improve the jury experience, the Arizona Judicial Council deemed it necessary to revisit ways to promote fairer, more efficient, and more effective use of citizens as jurors.

Now, therefore, pursuant to Article VI, Section 3, of the Arizona Constitution,

IT IS ORDERED that The Committee to Study Jury Practices and Procedures is established as follows:

1. PURPOSE:

The Committee shall examine and develop recommendations on the following:

- The quality of source lists used for summoning jurors statewide;
- The efficacy and cost savings realized by centralizing jury list preparation;
- The process of how courts enforce their summons and excuse or postpone prospective jurors from jury service;
- An increase in juror pay to keep in step with inflation;
- The feasibility of implementing "one-day/one trial" reforms statewide; and,
- Any other such issues considered by the committee related to improving jury service.

2. **ORGANIZATION:**
The Chief Justice shall appoint the chairperson of the Committee and other leadership as needed to organize committee affairs.
3. **MEMBERSHIP:**
The membership of the Committee is attached to this order as Appendix A. The Chief Justice or the Chair of the Committee may appoint additional members as may be necessary.
4. **MEETINGS:**
Meetings shall be scheduled at the discretion of the Committee Chair. All meetings shall comply with the Arizona Judicial Department open meeting requirements.
5. **REPORTS:**
The Committee may, but need not, submit an interim report of its findings and recommendations to the Arizona Judicial Council at the Council's October 18, 2001 meeting. A final report shall be submitted to the Council at the December 13, 2001 meeting.
6. **STAFF:**
The Administrative Office of the Courts shall provide staff for the Committee and, as feasible, may conduct or coordinate research as requested by the Committee.

Dated this 11th day of July, 2001.

THOMAS A. ZLAKET
Chief Justice

ATTACHMENT: Appendix A