



The Official Website of the Massachusetts Judicial Branch

Massachusetts Court System

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Compensation, Reimbursement and Employer Issues

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Compensation

FIRST THREE DAYS of SERVICE

- By law, employers in Massachusetts are required to pay their employees who have jury duty their regular wages for any work missed for the first three days of service. This is true of full-time, part-time, and casual employees.

FROM THE FOURTH DAY ONWARD

- After the third day, the state compensates jurors at the rate of \$50 per day.

ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION INFORMATION

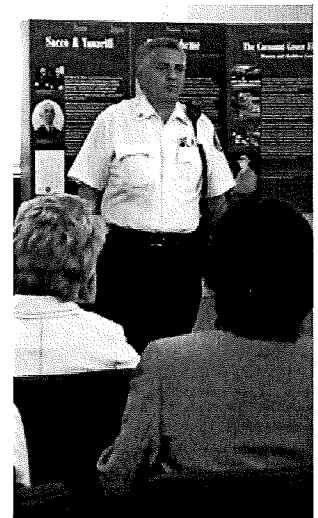
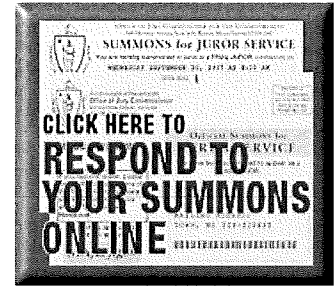
- Your jury service compensation is considered taxable income by the IRS. If you have any questions about the tax treatment of any part of your compensation, you should consult a tax professional.
- Employed Jurors:** While you are at jury duty, your primary obligation is to perform juror service. Your employer cannot impose any compulsory work assignments that would interfere with this obligation. However, you should always notify your employer that you have been impaneled and provide an estimate of how long you expect your term of service to last. The court will let jurors know how long they might be expected to serve and what the schedule will be.
- Self-employed jurors** must compensate themselves for the first three days of service, but will have the opportunity to discuss any hardship with a judge on the day they report for service. Upon a finding of hardship, a judge can limit the term of a juror's service and/or approve compensation up to \$50 per day.
- A retired or unemployed juror** can be reimbursed for travel and childcare expenses up to \$50 per day for the first three days of service, by submitting a written reimbursement request form, which is available at the courthouse. Ask the jury pool officer for assistance when you report for jury service.
- For information on specific situations such as self-employed jurors, out-of-state workers, and part-time or temporary employees, please see our [FAQ page](#).

Reimbursement

- Jurors sometimes ask if their expenses associated with jury duty, such as parking, lunch, or childcare, can be reimbursed.
- Only unemployed and retired persons are entitled to reimbursement from the Commonwealth, and only for reasonable travel and childcare expenses of up to \$50 per day for the first three days of service. All others must bear their own expenses.
- After the third day of service, jurors who are not employed are paid \$50 per day by the state, just like all other jurors.

Unemployed or Retired Jurors

- If you are unemployed or retired and want to request reimbursement, you must submit a written request using the form that is available at the courthouse. Ask the jury pool officer for assistance on your first day of jury service.



OFFICE OF JURY COMMISSIONER FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
CERTIFICATE of TRIAL JUROR SERVICE

PLEASE PRINT NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE COURT OF MASSACHUSETTS TO WHICH YOU ARE REPORTING FOR SERVICE. THIS INFORMATION IS REQUIRED FOR THE COMPLETION OF YOUR SERVICE.

NAME: _____ COURT: _____
 ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

DATE OF SERVICE: _____

RECORD OF PERFORMANCE of TRIAL JUROR SERVICE

| DATE | DAY | PAY | DATE | DAY | PAY | DATE | DAY | PAY |
|------|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
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| | | | | | | | | |

RECORD OF PERFORMANCE of TRIAL JUROR SERVICE
EMPLOYER'S COPY

| DATE | DAY | PAY | DATE | DAY | PAY |
|------|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|
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NOTE: Certificates of Trial Juror Service are issued on a weekly basis. Example: If your jury service extends beyond a normal business week, another Certificate of Trial Juror Service will be issued for the second week.

Laws and Regulations

G. L. Chapter 234A

Jury Commissioner Regulations

Additional Information

- If your request is approved, you will receive your check within 14 days of completing your service.
- If you serve for more than one week, you will receive a check within 10 days after the end of each week.

Employment Issues

- Virtually all employers in Massachusetts are required by law to pay employees for the first three days of jury service, except in very specific circumstances such as unpredictable schedules (e.g., part-time substitute teachers) or non-employee workers (e.g., independent contractors).

Learn Your Employer's Jury Policy

- It is important that you learn your employer's policy with respect to trial jury service compensation before reporting to the courthouse.

Additional Information

- Be sure to give your employer the Employer Copy of your Certificate of Juror Service, which sets forth the law governing juror compensation on the back of the form.
- If you have given your employer your Certificate of Juror Service and your employer still refuses to compensate you for the time you served jury duty, you may contact our Legal Department at 1-877-966-7469 or write to:

Office of Jury Commissioner
 ATTN: Legal Dept. / RE: Compensation
 560 Harrison Avenue, Suite 600
 Boston, MA 02118-2447

- An employer should not interfere with your ability to perform jury service in any way, such as giving you compulsory work assignments or requiring that you try to "get out" of jury service.
- Your employer cannot force you to reschedule your jury duty or use your vacation or personal days for jury duty, nor can you work a night shift while serving on a jury.
- However, if you are released early from jury duty, you should report to work. Employees are required to return to work if they are released from juror service with sufficient time to get to work from the courthouse to complete their normal work day. Time required to return home to change into uniform or other required work attire can be factored into your time calculation.
- If your jury service is cancelled, you should plan to go to work as usual.
- As soon as you learn that your service has been cancelled, you should notify your employer and report to work as scheduled. If your employer has made arrangements for someone else to cover your shift and will not permit you to report to work, you may contact our Legal Department for further assistance at 1-877-966-7469 or write to us at:

Office of Jury Commissioner
 ATTN: Legal Dept. / RE: Compensation
 560 Harrison Avenue, Suite 600
 Boston, MA 02118-2447

- In Massachusetts, there are no exemptions from juror service based upon your occupation or status as an essential employee.
- If performing juror service is a true hardship, you or your employer can request a judicial discretion hearing before a judge to ask that you be excused from juror service based on your personal circumstances.
- Similarly, small business owners for whom it is a true hardship to close for a day can request a judicial discretion hearing before a judge to ask to be excused from juror service based on their personal circumstances (See:

Mass. Gen. Laws c.234A, §66). Ask the jury pool officer for assistance when you report for jury service.

**Office of Jury Commissioner for the Commonwealth
560 Harrison Avenue - Suite 600, Boston, Massachusetts 02118-
2447
1-800-THE-JURY (1-800-843-5879)**

Did you find the information you were looking for on this page? *

- Yes
- No

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