



Leading and Managing the Reopening of Jury Trials in State and Local Courts

May 27, 2020

The second in a series of monthly leadership webinars for trial court leaders and leadership teams

Webinar Guidelines

1. The Webinar is being recorded.
2. Focus is on *site-specific leadership* plans and tactics to cautiously begin jury proceedings as COVID-19 recedes within a trial court's jurisdiction.
3. Audience Interaction is encouraged: Type Comments/Questions in the "Chat Box"
4. Slides and Handouts will be available on NAPCO's website: napco4courtleaders.org
5. You are encouraged to take the ideas and information presented as aids in designing your own site-specific jury reopening strategies



Presenters



Hon. John J. Russo
Chair, NAPCO Board of Directors



Chief Judge Ivy Bernhardson
Criminal Presiding Judge Kerry Meyer
Court Executive Sarah Lindahl-Pfiever
Minnesota District Court, Hennepin County



Presiding Judge Joseph Welty
Judge Danielle Viola
Court Executive Raymond Billotte
Arizona Judicial Branch in Maricopa County

AGENDA

1. Overview

2. Organizing the Courthouse Experience for Jurors

- **Communication strategies; encouraging jury service**
- **Remote qualification; virus protection practices**

3. Structuring Safe Courtroom Proceedings for All

- **Jurors; witnesses; litigants; prisoners; children; victims; families; media; public**
- **Judges; court staff; interpreters; court reporters; court security**
- **Technology deployment; exhibit management; space issues**

4. Wrap-Up / Questions / ADJOURN

Poll Question

1

How is in-person jury trial planning going in your court?

1. We've started planning, but no start date has been set.
2. We're planning and will start jury trials in the next 3 months.
3. We're planning to begin jury trials later in 2020.
4. We haven't started planning.

Overall Policies & Preparation

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS
TO START JURY TRIALS

Juror Safety

Public Access to Trials

City ↔ County ↔ Court
Coordination

Technology use

Public Messaging
about Jury Service



Poll Question

2

How will you handle jury selection during COVID-19?

1. We are considering a remote jury voir dire process.
2. We will use large spaces in the courthouse.
3. We will use space outside the courthouse (hotel, gym, etc.)
4. We are exploring options but have no plan at this point.

Courtroom Experience



Voir Dire changes

Modified Jury Instructions

Client ↔ Attorney
Conversations

Jury Deliberation
Accommodations

Safety Protocols:
Judges, Jurors, Lawyers,
Staff, Witnesses, Litigants

Virtual Trials?



Collin County TX “Zoom” Summary Civil Jury Trial – May 18, 2020



DISCUSSION





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For more information about NAPCO or this Webinar, feel free to contact Gordy Griller at ggriller@ncsc.org or Nikiesha Cosby at ncosby@ncsc.org

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