

UNITED STATES DISTRICT AND BANKRUPTCY COURTS
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

GENERAL NOTICE

JURY DUTY

Process by which names are periodically and randomly drawn

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1861, all litigants “have the right to grand and petit jurors selected at random from a fair cross section of the community.” A master jury wheel is created by selecting names at random from the Registered Voters Master File of the D.C. Board of Elections or its supporting computer tape file, the computer tape file maintained by the D.C. Department of Motor Vehicles of individuals 18 years and older who hold a driver’s license, learner’s permit, or valid identification card issued by the D.C. Department of Motor Vehicles, and the list of all individuals of the District of Columbia whose income tax forms are filed with the D.C. Department of Finance and Revenue. This merged list will hereafter be referred to as the “Source List.” Then names are randomly drawn periodically from the master jury wheel to receive juror qualification questionnaires and summonses to report for grand or petit jury service. Individuals’ answers to these questionnaires determine whether they are legally qualified and available to serve. If so, those individuals are expected to report pursuant to the court’s instructions. If not, those individuals are notified not to report or are postponed to another time. All of the selections are carried out through a properly programmed electronic data processing system for pure randomized selection. The pure randomized process ensures that the mathematical odds of any single name being picked are substantially equal.