

JURY SELECTION PROCESS

In accordance with the provisions of 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.” The court uses a two-step process to select jurors. First, a master jury wheel is created by selecting names at random from the Alaska Voter Registration List. Then, names are randomly drawn periodically from the master jury wheel to receive juror qualification questionnaires. Individuals’ answers to these questionnaires determine whether they are legally qualified to serve. If so, the names of those persons are put on a second wheel, a qualified jury wheel. As prospective jurors are needed for a specific trial or grand jury, juror summonses are sent to persons randomly selected from the qualified wheel. All of these 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.

In accordance with the provisions of 28 U.S.C. § 1863, the Court has adopted a “Plan for Random Selection of Grand and Petit Jurors. The Jury Plan may be reviewed in the Office of the Clerk of the Court or on-line at the Court’s Website <http://www.akd.uscourts.gov> in the Reference Section, under “Jury.”