

Dear Prospective Juror:

I am sure you have concerns about being summoned for jury service at this time. I am writing to assure you that the courts are closely monitoring the COVID-19 situation and to advise you of the steps we are taking to ensure the safety and well-being of our jurors. Our court will be strictly following the guidelines of both the U.S. Center for Disease Control (CDC), and the State of Idaho, for the protection of jurors, parties, attorneys, witnesses and others who are involved in jury trial proceedings. These guidelines include social distancing, wearing facial masks, frequent cleaning and sanitizing, and other safety measures.

We recognize there may be particular facts about your individual circumstances which cause heightened concern for your safety if you were to appear for jury service during the COVID-19 pandemic. **While you are still required to complete and return the jury questionnaire**, you may request to be excused from jury service if you are considered by the CDC to be an individual at high-risk for severe illness from COVID-19. Those individuals are:

1. People 65 years and older (medical excuse not required).
2. People who live in a nursing home or long-term care facility (medical excuse not required)
3. People of all ages with underlying medical conditions, particularly if not well controlled, including (medical excuse REQUIRED):
  - a. People with chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma,
  - b. People who have serious heart conditions,
  - c. People who are immunocompromised,
  - d. People with severe obesity (body mass index [BMI] of 40 or higher;
  - e. People with diabetes;
  - f. People with chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis; and
  - g. People with liver disease.

If you fall within a category that does not require a Medical Excuse, number 1 or 2 above, please note on your questionnaire that you fall into category 1 or 2 and wish to be excused. Then simply fill out the remainder of the questionnaire and return it to the Jury Commissioner.

If you fall within category 3 and wish to be excused, please note that at the bottom of your questionnaire, fill out the questionnaire and return it the Jury Commissioner along with a written statement from a physician explaining your condition. You may also just return the questionnaire with your condition noted and have your physician fax the written excuse to the Jury Commissioner, Ben Reinhardt, at (208) 267-7814 or email to [bcjury@boundarycountyid.org](mailto:bcjury@boundarycountyid.org) .

Thank you for your cooperation.

Very truly yours,

Barbara Buchanan  
District Judge