



# Press Release

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## **Court System Expanding Access to Online Jury Questionnaires Across Alaska**

**Anchorage, Alaska, May 20, 2015.** When Alaskans are summoned for jury service, they must return a qualifying questionnaire that allows court personnel to qualify, defer, or excuse them from service. Now prospective jurors will have the option to submit the qualifying questionnaire online. The Alaska Court System is rolling out the online questionnaire to communities throughout Alaska. Online questionnaires are expected to be available statewide by mid-November, 2015.

Prospective jurors will receive a jury summons postcard letting them know that they have been summoned to jury service. The postcard will have instructions on how jurors can access the online questionnaire. If a juror does not have access to the internet, they will be given instructions on how to contact their local court to receive a paper questionnaire.

Chief Justice Dana Fabe remarked: *“Putting the questionnaire online was a high priority of the statewide jury committee. The project was piloted in Ketchikan, and the goal is to have the system in place statewide by the end of the year. Jurors tell us that they find jury service a rewarding opportunity and experience, and we want to make it as convenient as possible for them to complete their service.”*

Online questionnaires are one of the ways the court system is reducing expenses and improving efficiencies for jurors and court staff. Making use of technology to communicate with jurors is part of the court system’s ongoing efforts to support and facilitate jurors’ service.

The following courts are using online questionnaires:

*Bethel  
Juneau  
Kenai  
Ketchikan  
Kotzebue  
Nome  
Palmer*

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