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FACT SHEET **December 2025**

Justice for All: Jury Service and *A More Perfect Jury: A History of Jury Service*

California's official jury orientation video and vignette provide a thoughtful and accessible overview of the juror experience, featuring modern courtrooms, historic courthouses, and a diverse cast, as well as interviews with judges, academics, and former jurors. While they were designed specifically for viewing in jury assembly rooms to help courts prepare jurors for this important civic duty, they also serve as valuable public education tools on the essential role that jurors provide in our justice system and its history.

Highlights

Justice for All and *A More Perfect Jury* were produced in a real courtroom at the Superior Court of California, County of San Joaquin's modern Stockton courthouse. The video and accompanying vignette also feature the historic Auburn courthouse of the Superior Court of Placer County, the Third District Court of Appeal and Judicial Council offices at the state capitol in Sacramento, and the California Judicial Center Library in San Francisco. The video takes viewers through the jury selection process, the trial, jury deliberations, and the verdict. The vignette explores the history of jury service from its origins in English common law, through its evolution in the civil rights and women's suffrage movements, to the present day, when it has become a more diverse and inclusive part of our court system.

Development and Production

The Judicial Council's Jury Improvement Program, under the guidance of an ad hoc work group composed of court executives and judicial officers, developed *Justice for All* and *A More Perfect Jury* to replace the 20-year-old original orientation video, *Ideals Made Real*. The creation of a new jury orientation video and its companion vignette was a four-year-long project beginning in 2018 and requiring the support of multiple judicial branch stakeholders collaborating with our justice partners and the contracted vendor, Slow Clap Productions. Actual filming took place in fall 2021,

during the COVID-19 pandemic, using a combination of public health precautions to ensure the safety of all participants. An updated introduction and conclusion with Chief Justice Patricia Guerrero were filmed in 2023 and 2025. Improving the juror experience to maintain access to justice remains an important goal of the branch because jury service is a fundamental right and cornerstone of our democracy.

Distribution

The Judicial Council has distributed the video and vignette, along with other juror educational materials, to all courts in California's 58 counties and continues to do so. Since March 2023, the videos have been seen by tens of millions of jurors and streamed online tens of thousands of times.

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Additional resources:
Information for jurors and links to the videos, courts.ca.gov/juryservice.htm