

## JURORS NOT RETURNED TO JURY ASSEMBLY ROOM BY JUDGE

Submitted by Deb Preston, Marin

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This is a question for those courts using Next Gen.

The Jury assembly room at our courthouse is two floors above the court floor. Consequentially it takes awhile for jurors to get downstairs and through the security checkpoint and vice-versa. Occasionally the following scenario takes place:

- Jurors are sent to a courtroom and the panel isn't needed for some reason.
- To save time, rather than sending the jurors back up to jury services, the judge may send the panel directly to another courtroom that is starting a trial.

This causes an issue for our staff as we are unable to scan jurors back into the pool and re-assign them to the other case. I realize one can edit the case name, number and department in Next Gen but sometimes that solution isn't workable.

What we do now, is try to figure it all out at the end of the day but it can be time-consuming. Does anyone else have a similar situation, and what do you do about it?

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|---|----------------|---|
| 1 | Contra Costa   | It's not a physical problem in the CoCo; however, our judges refer jurors back to the jury office for "recycling" and do not directly send them to other courtrooms. Kathleen   |
| 2 | Amy MacDonald  | Tulare County jurors are returned to the jury assembly room to be assigned to another courtroom   |
| 3 | Sherry Spears  | Fresno Wow, that's a tough one Deb! We have jurors return to the JAR, and yes – they have to go through security again if reassigned to another trial but other than editing the information in JSI the only other thing I might do is send staff to the courtroom to sort it out when they are reassigned.   |
| 4 | Diane Collins  | Mendocino County does not have this problem. Once they enter the courthouse they do not have to go through security again, unless they leave and need to re-enter. The judges are not real sure how the jury system works. If they do not need their jurors they send them back to me for recycling or excusal.   |
| 5 | Lynda Pierini  | Madera - If I understand correctly jurors are sent to the courtroom, trial goes away, instead of the jurors returning to you for "return to pool" they are sent into another courtroom to begin a totally different case?<br><br>In Madera if this were to be a problem I would resolve it by "returning the entire panel" in JSI to the pool and put them on the other case that is beginning and run the paperwork to the courtroom. In Madera we should be able to supply the paperwork in less than 5 minutes. Jurors do not go thru security but once to enter the building.<br><br>If the court getting the jurors begin selecting off the paperwork they have, then that info would have to be corrected on the paperwork but JSI should be correct if you have returned the panel to the pool and entered them on the other case. |
| 6 | Julie Griffith | In Kern the jurors are returned to the jury assembly room, however one of my staff suggested this for changing to the other assignment<br>Try this<br>1. Print an alpha sheet from the court case the jurors are in currently. (It must include scan bars)  |

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|    |                         | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Return to in pool the jurors sent to that case.</li> <li>3. Scan the jurors under the serve restrict code miscellaneous (it is the same way we(in Kern) scan jurors out for parking)</li> <li>4. Enter the case info like you normally would but at the very end before you run the panel highlight the miscellaneous and click on choose only jurors that have so you would only pick those that you scanned miscellaneous.</li> </ol>   |
| 7  | Shana Simpson           | Same in Sacramento  |
| 8  | Rose Hamblin            | Same for Kings County   |
| 9  | Dolores Curiel          | We don't usually send the jurors to a second Courtroom, but if we did have a need to, the Judge would direct the potential jurors back to the Jury Assembly Room to be re-assigned  |
| 10 | Richard Goldner         | <p>Ventura – No. The courtrooms and Jury Services are in the same building interior. No need to go through security again unless they leave the building / go outside. Security is stationed at all entrances.</p> <p>Deb, Judges almost always instructs the jurors to return to the window at jury services to be returned to the pool in hopes to be randomly recycled.</p> <p>Our Jury Services department is on the 21<sup>st</sup> Floor, and we have 4 floors of courtrooms.</p>   |
| 11 | Joe Yniquez, Stanislaus | I can see where the judges want to be efficient and try to make it more convenient for jurors. I'm sure it's hectic for your dept. to sort it out. We always have jurors report back to possibly be reassigned. Good luck!  |
| 12 | Diana Gifford-Tuggle    | <p>In Shasta, all jurors go through weapon screening prior to reporting to the JAR. When jurors are sent to a courtroom and not needed for that specific trial and we need to recycle them, they are sent back to us and we process the JSI computer events to place them back in the pool.</p> <p>We go into the individual juror history, correct off the panel assignment (also make notes in their history as to recycling); this puts them back in the pool for using on another case. Our judges know they must send jurors directly to us as they cannot go to another courtroom until we do our paperwork and let the computer system "randomly" select the new case panel.</p> |