

GRAND JURY DRAW/SWEARING IN

Submitted by Edwina Harper

June 18, 2010

This year in effort to save time, we are combining the Grand Jury Draw and Swearing In. First, I need to find out if any other court does the same thing and second, I need to know what you do if someone's name is drawn and they are not going to be in attendance for this event, but will be present for all others?

Sherry Spears	Fresno - We've always done both at the same time. In the letters we send to the 30 that go into the drawing we tell them that if they cannot be present for the empanelment drawing but wish to be included that they must contact me in advance. Roll call is taken before dropping the ballots into the wheel and if someone isn't present, and didn't notify us in advance, they are not included in the drawing.
Sabra Forbes	Solano County, the grand jury draw and swearing in is done at the same time in the Presiding Judges' courtroom. All prospective grand jurors must be present to win. If their name is called and their not present, they've missed out.
Connie Brennan	Napa County has always done the selection and swearing in at the Empanelment Ceremony. During the final interview process, the potential grand jurors are advised of the date of the Empanelment Ceremony, and told that if they are served with a subpoena to attend the ceremony, if they cannot attend, they must contact the court administrative assistant. During roll call at the beginning of the ceremony, if a potential grand juror has not been previously excused, they are noted absent, but their names are still placed in the drum. The first business day after the ceremony, all those previously excused or absent that were part of the first 19 drawn are contacted and arrangements are made for individual swearing in by the court administrative assistant as soon as possible.
Rose Hamblin	Kings County handles the Grand Jury Selection like Fresno County.