JURY QUESTIONNAIRES - CRIMINAL TRIAL

Submitted by Sherry Spears – Fresno August/2010

We had a criminal jury trial, not a death penalty case, where all the jurors were given a questionnaire to complete. Our office has shredded copies in the past but I've always maintained that the original questionnaires become part of the record. I have a court asking if there is any need to maintain the questionnaires of the non-sworn jurors and asking if we can shred the questionnaires but I'm reluctant to do that. I don't know if these would fall under the 3 year rule for jury records to destroy at that time or if they are court records. I'm checking with my CEO but in the meantime thought I would also ask my wonderful JEM members. Have any of you ever handled such a request? What would you do?

1	Los Angeles	Juror questionnaires are the responsibility of the courtroom and the clerical office. Juror Services is not involved
2	Napa	The juror questionnaires remain with the court file, and unless it is life without parole or death penalty the only questionnaires that are kept with the file are the sworn jurors. Death or LWOP. ALL of the questionnaires are kept with the court file. The jury dept does not maintain these records.
3	Mendocino	By order of the judge, and usually stated in the questionnaire, the questionnaires of non-sworn jurors are shredded. Sworn are kept as part of the court record.
4	Stanislaus	Keeps all questionnaires
5	Tulare	Keeps all questionnaires
6	Inyo	Keeps all questionnaires
7	Yolo	By order of the judge, and usually stated in the questionnaire, the questionnaires of non-sworn jurors are shredded. Sworn are kept as part of the court record.
8	Madera	Keeps all questionnaires
9	Virginia	Questionnaires are kept in the jury office for 3 years and then destroyed.
10	Sacramento	The juror questionnaires remain with the court file, and unless it is life without parole or death penalty the only questionnaires that are kept with the file are the sworn jurors. Death or LWOP. ALL of the questionnaire are kept with the court file. The jury dept does not maintain these records.