

JURY COMMISSION

Fund 080-032



Jury Commission positions: 2.17 FTE

The positions and duties of the jury commissioners are statutorily defined in the Jury Commission Act (705 ILCS 310/).

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Jury Commission is to carry out the constitutional and statutory responsibilities vested in the Jury Commission.

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

The only costs associated with this budget are for personnel. Changes from one year to the next are primarily driven by the terms of the Circuit Court AFSCME collective bargaining agreement.

FINANCIAL

Fund 080 Dept 032			2015 Actual	2016 Original	2016 Projected	2017 Budget
511	2	APPOINTED OFFICIAL SALARY	\$4,340	\$4,341	\$4,341	\$4,341
511	4	REG. PART-TIME EMPLOYEES	\$27,690	\$25,643	\$25,643	\$26,065
511	5	TEMP. SALARIES & WAGES	\$0	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
		PERSONNEL	\$32,030	\$31,984	\$31,984	\$32,406
533	62	JUROR MEALS	\$247	\$1,000	\$750	\$1,000
		SERVICES	\$247	\$1,000	\$750	\$1,000
		EXPENDITURE TOTALS	\$32,277	\$32,984	\$32,734	\$33,406

EXPENSE PER CAPITA (IN ACTUAL DOLLARS)

FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017
\$0.16	\$0.16	\$0.16	\$0.16	\$0.17

FTE HISTORY

FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017
2.5	2.5	2.20	2.20	2.20

DESCRIPTION

The Champaign County Jury Commission and jury personnel are responsible for the summoning of jurors for trial, reviewing requests for excusal or deferment, and providing orientation and guidance during jurors' service. The jury commission is comprised of three members appointed by the Circuit Judges for three year terms. The Courts and the Circuit Clerk work together to provide optimal juror pools for trials in Champaign County. With the advent of our new jury system, which allows for jurors to complete questionnaires via web, phone, or text, we have significantly increased initial juror response rate. This transition is also saving the County an average of \$6,000 annually in postage expenses. The new juror reporting notification program continues to be very popular with jurors, and the positive feedback we are receiving indicates that we have made great strides in improving the overall juror experience. In June of 2015, the Illinois General Assembly increased the juror pay to \$25 for the first day and \$50 for every subsequent day. This has increase monthly juror expenses but we hope to see a better rate of returned questionnaires.

OBJECTIVES

1. To provide a sufficient number of jurors for trials in the Champaign County Circuit Court
2. To ensure that jurors receive thorough information and support during their jury service
3. To provide a jury pool that is a representative cross-section of the community
4. To provide an understanding forum for individuals to request excusal or deferment of their jury service

ALIGNMENT to STRATEGIC PLAN

County Board Goal 1 – Champaign County is committed to being a high performing, open and transparent local government organization

- The members of the jury commission and the jury personnel are working to make the juror processes easier to navigate through upgrades to the current jury system.

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Indicator	FY2015 Actual	FY2016 Projected	FY2017 Budgeted
Number of questionnaires sent	21,008	20,000	20,000
Number of unreturned questionnaires	14,392	7,680	5,000
Number of jury trials	69	71	70
Number of jurors summoned	6750	9,950	8,000
Number of jurors excused	900	1,104	1,000
Number of jurors deferred	1,141	2,044	1,500