

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

Changes from one year to the next are primarily driven by the terms of the Circuit Court AFSCME collective bargaining agreement.

Starting in 2018, the Circuit Clerk is moving all Jury related expenses from General Revenue (080-030) to the Jury Commission (080-032). We believe that this will better align the purchases with the goals set forth by the Champaign County Auditor and the external Auditors. These expenses include the printing of summons, questionnaire postcards, parking passes, juror badges, and all meal items for the jurors.

FINANCIAL

Fund 080 Dept 032			2017 Actual	2018 Original	2018 Projected	2019 Budget
511	2	APPOINTED OFFICIAL SALARY	\$4,340	\$4,341	\$4,341	\$4,341
511	4	REG. PART-TIME EMPLOYEES	\$29,023	\$26,687	\$26,687	\$27,092
511	5	TEMP. SALARIES & WAGES	\$0	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
		PERSONNEL	\$33,363	\$33,028	\$33,028	\$33,433
522	1	STATIONERY & PRINTING	\$0	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$5,000
522	2	OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$34	\$1,000	\$101	\$101

522	44	EQUIPMENT LESS THAN \$5000	\$0	\$0	\$899	\$750
		COMMODITIES	\$34	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$5,851
533	7	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$0	\$2,500	\$2,050	\$2,500
533	29	COMPUTER/INF TCH SERVICES	\$0	\$75	\$75	\$75
533	42	EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE	\$0	\$7,500	\$7,950	\$7,500
533	62	JUROR MEALS	\$761	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
533	84	BUSINESS MEALS/EXPENSES	\$0	\$150	\$150	\$150
		SERVICES	\$761	\$11,225	\$11,225	\$11,225
EXPENDITURE TOTALS			\$34,158	\$52,253	\$52,253	\$50,509

EXPENSE PER CAPITA and FULL TIME EMPLOYEE HISTORY information is included in the *General Corporate Fund Budget Summary*.

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 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. The 2015 legislation increasing juror pay was found unconstitutional by the Illinois Supreme Court, so our juror pay expenditures have reverted to pre-2015 numbers. The Circuit Court reduced the number of jury weeks for 2017 and has continued this practice for 2018, which allows for more efficient use of the qualified juror pool.

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	FY2017 Actual	FY2018 Projected	FY2019 Budgeted
Number of questionnaires sent	24,000	20,000	20,000
Number of unreturned questionnaires	14,141	7,680	5,000
Number of jury trials	69	71	70
Number of jurors summoned	6750	9,950	8,000
Number of jurors excused	921	1,104	1,000
Number of jurors deferred	957	2,044	1,500