

TEMPLATE (updated 12/6/2022)

***Case-Specific Electronic Questionnaire – To be Completed by Jurors in
ACVD Pilot Cases***

We are using your answers to this questionnaire to get information directly from you to help us pick trial jurors who can be completely fair to both sides for this particular case.

Your answers to the following questions are very important to the proceedings in this case. Please answer each question honestly and completely.

We all have attitudes, feelings, opinions, and life experiences that can affect the way we consider the testimony of a witness or how we evaluate evidence. It is okay to admit and talk about these feelings, opinions, and life experiences, and we need you to do so to ensure justice is served in this case.

Please do not withhold information. Please make sure your answers are as complete as possible. Complete answers are more helpful and will likely shorten the time it takes to select a jury. Do not be concerned with whether your answers are “right” or “wrong”; this is not any sort of test. Just be honest and candid in your answers.

You are not allowed to do any research or investigation regarding this case. You may not look up the parties or the lawyers. As a trial juror you must decide the case based only on the evidence presented during trial.

The information you provide will be reviewed only by the court, the lawyers, and the parties in this case. For purposes of the public record, your name and identifying information will be deleted.

If you have trouble reading, understanding, or filling out this questionnaire, please ask court staff for help.

Identifying Information – these questions are mandatory

1. Juror Number (provide description of this number)
2. Last Name
3. First Name

Qualifying Information – these questions are mandatory

4. Are you a resident of X County?
 Yes No
5. Are you a citizen of the United States?
 Yes No
6. Have you been convicted of an indictable offense?
 Yes No
7. Do you have difficulty understanding or reading English?
 Yes No
8. Do you have any difficulty seeing or hearing, or have any other medical problems that may affect your ability to serve as a juror?
 Yes No

Availability

9. This trial is scheduled to start XX and continue until XX. The daily schedule will be Monday through Thursday, from XX a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with no trial on Fridays. There is a lunch break from noon until 1:00 p.m., and usually one mid-morning and one mid-afternoon break. The law provides that a juror can be excused from service only if their absence from work would impose a **severe hardship** (much more than an inconvenience) on the juror.

Is there anything about our anticipated trial schedule that presents a severe hardship for you?

- Yes No Unsure

10. If you answered “Yes” or “Unsure” to the prior question, please describe the nature of the severe hardship.
11. What is your current employment status?
- Employed full time
 - Employed part time
 - Retired
 - Student
 - Unemployed looking for work
 - Unemployed not looking for work
 - Caregiver or homemaker
 - Other [with narrative field]
12. If applicable, what is your occupation?
13. List the other members of your household and each person’s occupation, if applicable.
14. How do you spend your free time?

Case Information

15. This section provides you with information about the case. [TO BE ADDED BY THE JUDGE AND ATTORNEYS]

Have you seen, heard, or read anything about this case?

- Yes No Unsure

16. If you answered “Yes” or “Unsure” to the prior question, please explain what you have seen, heard, or read about the case.

17. You have been given a list of people who may testify at trial: Do you think you might know any of these people?
 Yes No Unsure
18. Have you, or any family member or close friend ever been involved in a case with facts similar to this?
 Yes No Unsure
19. Is there anything about the nature of this case that might cause you to favor one side over the other?
 Yes No Unsure
20. What caused you to answer “Yes” or “Unsure” to the prior question?

Experiences with Courts and Law Enforcement

21. Do you have any opinions about law enforcement officers that might cause you to favor one side over the other?
 Yes No Unsure
22. Have you or any family member or close friend ever served as a law enforcement officer?
 Yes No Unsure
23. Have you or any family member or close friend ever been arrested, charged, or convicted of a crime other than a minor traffic offense?
 Yes No Unsure
24. Have you or any family member or close friend ever been the victim of a crime?
 Yes No Unsure
25. Do you know anyone who works at the XX County Prosecutor’s Office?
 Yes No

26. Have you had any interaction or experience with law enforcement officers from [investigating agency]?
- Yes No

Principles and Applications of Law

27. The judge will instruct you on the law in this case. A person may think that the law should be different than it is or that certain conduct that is against the law should be legal. Would you have any difficulty or reluctance in accepting the law as explained by the court and applying it to the facts regardless of your personal beliefs about what the law should be or is?
- Yes No Unsure

Final Question

28. Is there anything else you think we should know about your ability to be a juror in this case?
29. By typing my name, I swear or affirm the answers given in this questionnaire are true.

Guidelines for Case-Specific Electronic Questionnaires

- Since the use of electronic questionnaires is new, the recommendation is to keep the total number of questions under 35.
- The following types of questions are well suited for the electronic questionnaire format:
 - Questions with Yes / No responses
 - Questions with listed responses
 - Questions with short narrative options (for example, a question about whether the juror has any family members in law enforcement could include a narrative option to list which family members)
- The following types of questions in general should be avoided:
 - Compound questions
 - Questions that use legal terminology or other language not familiar to jurors
 - Detailed hypotheticals that attempt to “pre-try” the case
 - Intrusive questions (for example, if a juror has answered that they could not listen to testimony about X offense, the questionnaire should not ask the juror to explain why)
 - Numerous open-ended narrative questions
- Questions about individual juror demographic information are prohibited.
- Case-specific written questionnaires are a tool to support effective oral voir dire. They are not a substitute for oral questioning.
- In developing the questionnaire, the judge will consult with the attorneys and will make the final decision about which questions to include. Relevant questions not included on the written questionnaire can be asked orally.