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For immediate release: July 31, 2019

Judiciary to Introduce Interactive Juror Summons Process in Mercer County

Prospective jurors in Mercer County can respond to jury duty summonses online and interact with the court in real time under a new system set to begin this week.

Mercer County Superior Court began using the Judiciary's new juror summons system on Tuesday, July 30. The program, which was introduced in Atlantic County in January, will expand statewide by the end of the year.

As part of the changes, a <u>single postcard</u> will replace the letter-sized paper summons mailed to prospective jurors advising them of the date and location of jury duty and providing instructions to complete an online qualification questionnaire. Prospective jurors who do not complete online qualification within three weeks will receive a letter-sized questionnaire to be completed and mailed back to the local jury management office.

In addition to the new summons forms, a new juror portal will allow prospective jurors to ask questions or request deferrals or postponements online for quicker responses. The portal also will enhance email and text message communications between jurors and the jury management office.

The new system reflects the Judiciary's commitment to best meet the needs of the public and engage with jurors in a clear and concise manner.

"The Judiciary continues to work to improve the jury experience," said Glenn A. Grant, acting administrative director of the courts. "Modernizing communication with jurors is the latest step in our ongoing efforts to respect jurors' time and support positive interactions with the courts."

Frequently asked questions about jury service in New Jersey can be found at njcourts.gov.