

IN THE SUPREME COURT FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA

ORDER NO. 969

Amending Administrative Rule 15(j)(1), Administrative Rule 15(k)(2), Criminal Rule 6(d), Criminal Rule 24(e), and Civil Rule 47(e) concerning juries.

IT IS ORDERED:

1. Administrative Rule 15(j)(1) is amended to provide:

(j) Term of Service.

(1) Except as otherwise provided by the administrative director, a juror's term of service is based upon the size of the court's local master jury list as defined in section (b) of this rule. The maximum term of service and maximum length of actual service are shown below:

SIZE OF LOCAL MASTER JURY LIST	MAXIMUM LENGTH OF AVAILABILITY FOR JURY SERVICE (TERM OF SERVICE)	MAXIMUM LENGTH OF ACTUAL ANNUAL COURT ATTENDANCE (SERVICE)
Under <u>2000</u> [5000]	1 year	30 days per year
<u>2000 to 7000</u>	<u>90 consecutive days per jury year unless interrupted by a deferral</u>	<u>30 days per year</u>
<u>7000</u> [5000] and over	30 consecutive days per jury year unless interrupted by a deferral	30 days per year

2. Administrative Rule 15(k)(2) is amended to provide:

(2) Excused -- a person may be excused from service as a juror if it is shown that his

or her health, the health or proper care of his or her family, a physical or mental disability, or other conditions exist which would cause a hardship to the individual. Unless the court specifically authorizes a permanent excusal, all excusals from jury service shall be for the current jury year only. However, a person who has appeared for jury duty may be excused for two years from further jury duty in a jury selection area as defined in paragraph (b) with a population over 50,000.

3. Criminal Rule 6(d) is amended to provide:

(d) Summoning Grand Juries. At least once each year the presiding judge of the superior court in each judicial district shall order one or more grand juries to be summoned at such times as the public interest requires. The court shall direct that a sufficient number of legally qualified persons be summoned to meet this requirement. Any qualified member of the grand jury panel not designated to serve as a member of the grand jury may be placed on the petit jury panel. An otherwise qualified person called for petit jury service may be placed on the grand jury panel.

4. Criminal Rule 24(e) is amended to provide:

(e) Procedure for Using Challenges. The court has discretion to set procedures for the exercise of challenges and for the replacement

of challenged jurors, except that the entire trial panel will be asked general questions concerning the for cause challenges listed in Criminal Rule 24(c)(5)-(14) before proceeding to other questioning.

5. Civil Rule 47(e) is amended to provide:

(e) Procedure for Using Challenges. The court has discretion to set procedures for the exercise of challenges and for the replacement of challenged jurors, except that the entire trial panel will be asked general questions concerning the for cause challenges listed in Civil Rule 47(c)(5)-(13) before proceeding to other questioning.

DATED: April 6, 1989

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 15, 1989

Chief Justice Matthews

Justice Rabinowitz

Justice Burke

Justice Compton

Justice Moore