

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF FRESNO



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jurors in Fresno County to Receive \$100 Per Day for Jury Service

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Seven counties participating in pilot program that raises juror compensation from \$15 to \$100 per day.

Starting September 3rd, residents called into jury service in Fresno County will receive \$100 per day, starting on the second day of service— up from the current amount of \$15. In addition, the juror mileage reimbursement rate will increase from \$0.34 to \$0.67 per mile roundtrip.

Why Are Pay Rates Going Up?

A pilot program funded by <u>Assembly Bill 1981</u> and administered by the Judicial Council of California will explore whether increases in juror compensation and mileage reimbursement rates improve juror diversity and participation.

"Jurors play a critical role in our justice system by ensuring everyone can take advantage of the fundamental right to a jury of their peers," said California Chief Justice Patricia Guerrero. "Jurors help deliver that fundamental right and the promise of fair and equal access to justice for all Californians."

Fresno Superior Court's Presiding Judge Sanderson commented on the initiative, stating, "Participation as a juror is a most critical and hands on experience that our citizens will ever engage in within our democracy. We appreciate being one of the counties that will partake in this program and hope the extra pay will reduce the financial burden that jurors suffer during their service."

Which Counties Are Participating in the Pilot?

Funding for the pilot program is provided for the following seven superior courts: Alameda, El Dorado, Fresno, Imperial, Monterey, San Bernardino, and Shasta. The pilot will end by early 2026 or when the funding is exhausted, whichever comes first.

At the conclusion of the pilot, the Judicial Council will provide a report to the California State Legislature describing the findings of the pilot program and information for promoting juror diversity.