



Office of the Jury Commissioner
Rachel Puentes

CHANGES ARE COMING TO THE GEM COUNTY JURY SYSTEM

December 6, 2023

Gem County has used the same jury program for over 20 years. As technology has changed drastically over the last 20 years our old system was not able to keep up. Until this year counties have had the burden of paying for the system that is used and because Gem County doesn't have very many jury trials we could not justify spending tax payer dollars to purchase a new system. Last year the Idaho Supreme Court started piloting a new jury system that they are providing at no cost to the counties. Our jury office has been training on this new system for the past 90 days and we are ready to make the switch!

What does this mean to Gem County citizens? First, if you have served on Jury Duty here in Gem County you will notice that we have a new Juror Questionnaire. You will be able to fill out that questionnaire on-line, check the status of a trial you have been assigned to, submit requests for an excusal, and even see if you have money coming to you for a trial that you served on. You will also be able to check your status and request an excusal via an automated telephone service. Further, the Jury Commission will now have the ability to send e-mails directly from the new system, including mass e-mails, which will allow us to alert you of changes to the Juror selection schedule in a timelier manner. We will also be able to send out text messages, if you choose to opt in for that service when you sign into the website.

For more information and to see a sample Juror Summons please go to our website at www.gemcounty.org or click on [https://gemcounty.org/departments_offices/court_\(magistrate-district\)/index.php](https://gemcounty.org/departments_offices/court_(magistrate-district)/index.php). As always, if you have any questions at all please feel free to call our office at (208)365-5621 and we will gladly walk you through the new system.

Sincerely,

Rachel Puentes

Gem County Jury Commissioner
(208)365-5621