

SUSPENSION



State of New York
Commissioner of Jurors
Erie County

Paul G. Gaughan
Commissioner

Erie County Commissioner of Jurors
Jury Board Meeting
Monday, December 16, 2013

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Our office continues to handle the responsibility of providing jurors to our courts. We do this every year, in an ever-changing physical and budgetary arena.

This year, our office has been in transition to become the "hub" printing center for the Eighth Judicial District. We handle printing summonses for many of our neighboring counties.

We, also, scan Qualification Questionnaires for all eight counties. Soon, we will be scanning all of the Juror Information Cards handed out in every county. These are mandated by the New York State Legislature.

This year we will be changing from our present "one-step" system to the statewide, "two-step system". This is being done at the Office of Court Administration's request. The Department of Technology feels our conformity will streamline their operation.

We have also been very active in the Office of Court Administration's new initiative to overhaul the Jury Management System, or JMS. The present system is based on a very old technological platform using "COBALT" language and severely limits our ability to adapt to present day needs. The new system will be a "windows-based" platform and will help back office operations significantly. It will also enable jurors to interact with our office through web connection far more easily.

We continue to do our share of "belt tightening" for our district by closely monitoring juror usage numbers. We manage our numbers daily, weekly, monthly and yearly - always trying to maximize efficiency.

This also requires that we maintain excellent communication with our Judges.

The Commissioner of Jurors Staff is down three people. The present staff is doing the best they can, given our budgetary circumstances. They provide excellent public service to our citizens.

In closing, I look forward to the continued quality of service our office provides and the new challenges in our immediate future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Paul G. Gaughan".

Paul G. Gaughan
Commissioner of Jurors - Erie County

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