

Juror Form on Death Penalty Views

The following form is completed prior to the death qualification stage of the proceedings. This form may be used whether death qualification consists of individual *voir dire* or small groups. A suggested use is to provide the form to jurors at the conclusion of the initial general *voir dire*. At the conclusion of the initial general *voir dire*, the jurors are advised by the court concerning the potential for the death penalty. Court personnel need approximately ten (10) minutes to finalize the death qualification timetables. The juror form is distributed and completed while the jurors wait on the completion of the timetables. The forms are completed and collected. The death penalty qualification timetables are provided to the jurors. The jurors are provided with appropriate admonitions from the court. The death penalty forms are copied and provided to counsel. They are utilized during the death qualification process.

Death Penalty Views Questionnaire
Juror No.

In any case where the death penalty is a possible punishment, the law requires that jurors answer questions regarding their thoughts, feelings, and opinions on the death penalty. The death penalty is also sometimes called capital punishment. You must not assume that (Fill in defendant's name) will be found guilty of any crime. He is presumed innocent at all times. However, these questions must be asked. This is true even though the defendant may not be guilty of any crime. The death penalty - capital punishment - is an issue on which many good citizens disagree. It is important for you to tell us your general views on the death penalty. There are no right or wrong answers, just honest answers.

1. What are your thoughts, feelings and opinions about the death penalty?
2. Have you ever had a different feeling or opinion about the death penalty? Yes No (Please circle one.) If you answered "yes", what was your prior feeling and opinion and why did you change your prior feeling and opinion?
3. Which of the following best describes your thoughts, feelings and opinions about the death penalty where the alleged crime is aggravated murder. (Please circle the answer that best describes your thoughts, feelings and opinions):
 - a. The proper punishment in all cases where someone is convicted of aggravated murder;
 - b. Generally the proper punishment with very few exceptions;
 - c. The proper punishment in some cases, but not the proper punishment in some other cases;
 - d. The proper punishment in some cases, but not proper in most cases;
 - e. Generally not the proper punishment with very few exceptions;
 - f. Not ever the proper punishment as I am opposed to the death penalty under all circumstances.

Please explain your answer.

4. There have been a number of cases recently discussed on television and in the newspaper and on the radio regarding cases where the death penalty may be involved. Also, from time to time, the news media may discuss the execution of an individual previously sentenced to receive the death penalty. Have you followed any of these stories? (Please circle the appropriate answer) Yes No

If your answer is "yes", which stories did you follow, and what, if any effect did it have on your views about the death penalty?

5. Which of the following statements best describes your feelings about the death penalty? (Please circle the answer that best describes your feeling and opinion):
 - a. I believe that the death penalty should be imposed in all capital murder cases;
 - b. I believe that the death penalty is appropriate in some capital murder cases and I could return a verdict resulting in death in a proper case;
 - c. Although I do not believe the death penalty should ever be imposed, as long as the law provides for it, I could consider it under the proper set of circumstances;
 - d. I believe that the death penalty is appropriate in some capital murder cases, but I could never return a verdict which called for the death penalty;

- e. I could never, under any circumstances, return a verdict which called for the death penalty.

NOTE: You are not to discuss these questions or your answers with anyone else including your fellow jurors. Do not let anyone except the Jury Commissioners read your answers to these questions.

I understand that my answers given above are given to the best of my ability. I certify I have given full and truthful answers.

Signature _____

Name _____
(Print Name)

Juror No.

Sample Jury Schedule

To be provided to each juror at the conclusion of the group *voir dire*. This schedule will provide each juror with the time they are to appear for their small group questioning.

IN THE COURT OF _____

DATE	<i>State of _____ v. John Defendant</i> Case No. _____ Jury Schedule TIME	JUROR NUMBERS
8/20/06 (Tuesday)	8:45 a.m.	221 - 232
8/20/06 (Tuesday)	9:45 a.m.	233 - 245
8/20/06 (Tuesday)	10:45 a.m.	249 - 269
8/20/06 (Tuesday)	1:00 p.m.	270 - 285
8/20/06 (Tuesday)	2:00 p.m.	288 - 298
8/20/06 (Tuesday)	3:00 p.m.	299 – 310
8/21/06 (Wednesday)	8:45 a.m.	311 – 320
8/21/06 (Wednesday)	9:45 a.m.	321 – 335
8/21/06 (Wednesday)	10:45 a.m.	336 – 344
8/21/06 (Wednesday)	1:00 p.m.	345 – 357
8/21/06 (Wednesday)	2:00 p.m.	358 – 370
8/22/06 (Thursday)	8:45 a.m.	All Report for Final Seating

Jury Reporting Phone: _____ or _____

NOTE: PLEASE REPORT TO THE JURY ASSEMBLY ROOM ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF THE _____ COUNTY COURTHOUSE. DO NOT REPORT TO THE COURTROOM.