



## Juries

### Jury News Research Services

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#### **Donation of Juror Fees**

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The idea of helping jurors donate their juror fees to charities has continued to spread. This idea, credited to Dallas, Texas, has taken on a few new twists. In Fairfax County, Virginia, the funds are used to automate the jury system. In Lake County, Illinois, the funds support a child care center in the courthouse. The county provides the space and needed insurance, and the juror fees pay for the furnishings, materials needed by the children, and the support of the coordinator of the volunteers who staff the facility. Children of persons using the courthouse, including jurors, can use the child care facility. Court Administrator Bob Zastany has set up a foundation to manage the facility and the funds. In Hamilton County (Cincinnati), Ohio, Chief Deputy Jury Commissioner Fritz Meyer has set up an "Administration of Justice Fund." Jurors can donate all or a part of their fees to this fund and can and do write personal checks to it. Meyer explains the many uses of the fund to prospective jurors during his orientation to each new group reporting for service. The fund supports the tours provided to students who visit the court and detention facilities through the coordinator of the volunteer tour guides and the pamphlet provided to each student. The fund also pays for the materials to frame student art and to recognize the students who provide the art that decorates the juror assembly room. The fund even pays for coffee for the jurors. Jurors can also donate to the United Way in addition to or instead of the fund. Forty two percent of the jurors participate, and about \$40,000 is collected per year for these charities.

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Inquiries regarding **Juries** or to obtain copies of any of these resources  
may be directed to the Research Division Office

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