



DISQUALIFICATIONS, EXEMPTIONS, POSTPONEMENTS, AND EXCUSES OF JURORS

In South Carolina, there are several grounds for disqualification, exemption, postponement or excuse from jury service. The following list shows the allowances in each category:

DISQUALIFICATIONS

You are not qualified to serve as a juror:

- (14-7-810) If you have been convicted in a State or Federal court of a crime punishable by more than one year.
If you are unable to read, write, speak, or understand the English language.
If you are incapable by mental or physical infirmities to render efficient jury service.
If you have less than a sixth (6th) grade (or equivalent) education.
- (14-7-820) If you are a clerk or deputy clerk of court, constable, sheriff, probate judge, county commissioner, magistrate or other county officer.

EXEMPTIONS

You may serve or not serve as you choose:

- (14-7-840) If you are age 65 or older.
- (14-7-850) If you have served on a jury in a magistrate's or municipal court within the current calendar year.

POSTPONEMENT

You may postpone your jury service:

- (14-7-845) If you are a student, school employee, such as a teacher, certified personnel or bus driver.

EXCUSES

You may be excused from jury service:

- (14-7-860) If you have legal custody and duty of care for a child less than 7 years old.
If you are primary caretaker of a person 65 or older.
If you are primary caretaker of a severely disabled person.
If you are essential to operation of a business.

Failure to appear for jury duty or notify the court within 48 hours with a sufficient reason for failing to appear, can result in the judge ordering a Rule to Show Cause, at which time you would be brought before the judge and could be punished for contempt of court.