

Act 892 of the 1989 Regular Session.

Act 892

HB1925

By: Representatives Shaver, Cunningham and Flanagin

"AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE 16-32-106 TO ALLOW JURY NOTICES TO BE DELIVERED BY FIRST CLASS MAIL; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 16-32-106 is hereby amended to read as follows:
"16-32-106. Summons of petit jurors.

(a) The persons whose names have been drawn and recorded in the petit jury book shall be summoned to appear on a date set by the court to answer questions concerning their qualifications and, unless excused or disqualified, to serve the required number of days or for the maximum period during the calendar year for which selected unless sooner discharged.

(b) Jurors shall be summoned by the sheriff by:

(1) A notice dispatched by first class mail; or
(2) Notice given personally on the telephone; or
(3) Service of summons personally or by such other method as is permitted or prescribed by law.

(c) (1) If a notice is dispatched by first class mail, the prospective jurors shall be given a date certain to call the sheriff to confirm receipt of the notice. Not later than five (5) days before the prospective juror is to appear, the sheriff shall call the prospective juror if the prospective juror has failed to acknowledge receipt of the notice.

(2) A notice dispatched by first class mail shall include the following language:

'You are hereby notified that you have been chosen as a prospective juror. You must call the sheriff on or before.....(date).....to confirm that you have received this notice. If you do not call the sheriff to confirm this notice, the sheriff will contact you and there will be added cost. Please call the sheriff at.....(phone number)..... .'

(d) Unless excused by the circuit judge, a juror who has been legally summoned and who shall fail to attend on any date when directed to do so may be fined in any sum not less than five dollars (\$5.00) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500). However, nothing in this subsection shall be construed to limit the inherent power of the court to punish for contempt. All excuses granted by the circuit judge shall be noted in the jury book."

SECTION 2. All provisions of this act of general and permanent nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

SECTION 3. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

APPROVED: March 22, 1989
