

FILED

APR 11 2024

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

**CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EAST ST. LOUIS OFFICE**

IN RE:

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Administrative Order No. 379

REFILLING THE JURY WHEELS.

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

In accordance with this district’s Plan for the Random Selection of Jurors (September 2023) (the Plan), the master jury wheels used to summon petit and grand jurors are to be emptied and refilled every two years, but not later than July 31 of the year following a general election. Due to circumstances beyond the Court’s control, the July 31, 2023, deadline was not met.

The Court utilizes source lists provided by the Illinois State Board of Elections drawn from general election voter registration records. Those records may be supplemented with lists of licensed drivers and state-issued identification cards from the Illinois Secretary of State and lists of unemployment benefit recipients from the Illinois Department of Employment Security. Those records are then electronically processed – typically by a third-party vendor – to allow the data to be imported into the Court’s Jury Management Software system, which houses the master wheel.

Clerk’s Office staff began working with the state agencies in April 2023 to acquire and process the data prior to the deadline of July 31, 2023. Despite rounds of emails, telephone calls, and meetings, the Clerk’s Office staff did not acquire any data until March 2024 – and then from only two of the targeted state agencies. The impediments included, but were not limited to, changing cybersecurity insurance requirements and qualification standards between the State of Illinois and the third-party vendor, as well as staffing changes within the state agencies that inhibited the transfer of the source list data. The third-party vendor is expected to complete the electronic processing soon, followed by the creation of the new wheels.

There are sufficient jurors remaining in the current wheels to ensure jurors can be summoned well into this year, thereby ensuring jury trials may continue without any disruption. Once the new wheels are produced, the Court will maintain the renewal schedule prescribed in the Plan, absent any formal amendment.

The Court finds, for the reasons stated above, that there is good cause for the delayed emptying and refilling of the district’s master jury wheels by the prescribed July 31, 2023, deadline and directs the Clerk of Court to continue working to refill those wheels.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED: April 11, 2024



**NANCY J. ROSENSTENGEL
Chief U.S. District Judge**