

§1213. Excuses from jury service

1. Determination. Upon request of a prospective juror, the presiding justice or the clerk of court acting under the supervision of the presiding justice shall determine whether the prospective juror is excused from jury service. The determination must be made on the basis of information provided on the juror qualification form, supplemented by other competent evidence when considered necessary to the determination.

[PL 1999, c. 87, §1 (RPR).]

2. Basis for excuse. A qualified prospective juror may be excused from jury service only upon a showing of undue hardship, extreme inconvenience, public necessity or inability to render satisfactory jury service because of physical or mental disability.

A. A person claiming to be excused on the grounds of disability may be required to submit a physician's certificate or accredited Christian Science practitioner's certificate. The certifying physician or Christian Science practitioner is subject to inquiry by the court at its discretion. [PL 1999, c. 87, §1 (NEW).]

B. Municipal election officials, as defined in Title 21-A, section 1, subsection 14, are excused from serving on a jury on the day of an election. State election officials and municipal clerks and registrars and their employees are excused from serving on a jury for 31 days prior to an election. [PL 1999, c. 87, §1 (NEW).]

C. A person 80 years of age or older who does not wish to serve on a jury is excused from jury service. [PL 2013, c. 74, §1 (NEW).]

[PL 2013, c. 74, §1 (AMD).]

3. Extent of excuse; record. Depending upon the circumstances, a juror may be finally excused from jury service, be required to serve at a later specific time or be required to serve for a period of time less than the usual 15 court days. The clerk shall enter the determination regarding the requested excuse and the reason for the determination in the appropriate record kept for that purpose.

[PL 1999, c. 87, §1 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1971, c. 391, §1 (NEW). PL 1981, c. 705, §G6 (RPR). PL 1999, c. 87, §1 (RPR). PL 2013, c. 74, §1 (AMD).

The State of Maine claims a copyright in its codified statutes. If you intend to republish this material, we require that you include the following disclaimer in your publication:

All copyrights and other rights to statutory text are reserved by the State of Maine. The text included in this publication reflects changes made through the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature and is current through October 15, 2024. The text is subject to change without notice. It is a version that has not been officially certified by the Secretary of State. Refer to the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated and supplements for certified text.

The Office of the Revisor of Statutes also requests that you send us one copy of any statutory publication you may produce. Our goal is not to restrict publishing activity, but to keep track of who is publishing what, to identify any needless duplication and to preserve the State's copyright rights.

PLEASE NOTE: The Revisor's Office cannot perform research for or provide legal advice or interpretation of Maine law to the public. If you need legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.