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FACT SHEET

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Ideals Made Real: Jury Orientation Video

California's first official jury orientation video provides a thoughtful and accessible overview of the juror experience, featuring interviews with former jurors and an introduction to the one-day or one-trial system. While the 14-minute video was designed especially for screening in a jury assembly room or courtroom to help courts prepare jurors for this important civic duty, it also serves as a valuable public education tool.

Improving California Jury Service

Ideals Made Real—taped in a Superior Court of Alameda County courtroom—was developed by the Judicial Council's Task Force on Jury System Improvements as part of a larger statewide program to improve the experience of jurors and encourage citizens' participation in the jury system. The video contains segments on the jury selection process, the trial, and jury deliberations. Four former jurors share their experiences to help potential jurors feel more comfortable and prepare for the jury process. For example, one says, "I came out feeling very positive, more confident about the system, and if I were called back in again, I would be there to help our community." Another comments: "You could have seen juries in action in a movie. But it's not the same. There's no substitute for experiencing it yourself."

Distribution

The Administrative Office of the Courts has distributed *Ideals Made Real*, along with television monitors, video and DVD players, and other juror educational materials, to all of California's superior courts. The video can also be viewed directly from the California Courts Web site at www.courtinfo.ca.gov/jury/video1.htm, or a copy can be obtained upon request to Kristin Nichols at the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) at 415-865-7832 or by e-mail at kristin.nichols@jud.ca.gov.

Information for jurors is available on the California Courts Web site at www.courtinfo.ca.gov/jury/.

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