

# JURY TRIALS FOR SELF-REPRESENTED PARTIES

## IMPORTANT ADVISEMENT

This form is provided for informational purposes only and should not be considered as legal advice. You should consult with an attorney if:

- You are not sure how to proceed with your case; or,
  - You need to know what your rights and/or responsibilities are under the law; or,
  - You are uncomfortable speaking on your own behalf in a court setting.
- 

- The Court will not appoint a free or low-cost attorney for you.
- The Court might not delay the trial for you to hire an attorney.
- Unless you apply (use JDF 205) and qualify for a fee waiver, a jury fee of \$98.00 must be paid at the time the demand for jury trial is made. The fee is non-refundable if you change your mind later.
- If you demand a jury trial, it is your responsibility to understand the jury selection process. This process is known as “Voir Dire.”
- You may be required to provide suggested jury instructions.
- Colorado Rules of County Court Civil Procedure and the Colorado Rules of Evidence will apply in all cases.
- Self-represented parties are held to the same standard as parties with attorneys.
- You must be prepared to proceed the day of trial. This may include opening and closing statements, direct and cross examination of witnesses, and having sufficient copies of proposed exhibits for the Court, the opposing party, and all jurors.
- **Jury trials are conducted in person. Parties cannot appear virtually for a jury trial.**
- By law, you may be responsible for the cost of meals and provisions furnished to the jurors.

**Commented [rm1]:** During the en banc meeting on 12/6/24, Judge Stenger said he was uneasy about this because the plain language of the statute permits defendants to appear virtually. Judge Schuenemann also said other county court judges shared that view.

More information can be found at: [coloradojudicial.gov](http://coloradojudicial.gov)

For assistance with forms or court procedure, please contact the Self-Represented Litigant Coordinator at: (719) 589-7621, or [12selfhelp@judicial.state.co.us](mailto:12selfhelp@judicial.state.co.us)

No court employee can provide any party with legal advice.