

JURY ASSEMBLY ROOM ~ WISH LISTS/NEEDS

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I am starting to participate in some of the discussions/meetings in re: construction of our new courthouse. I have been asked to create a “must have” and “wish list” for the design of our new Jury Assembly Room...so I wanted check with all of you to see if anyone has something that is really “cool” or a “must have” for your Jury Assembly Room.

Also, does anyone provide a refrigerator for the jurors? If so, who is responsible for maintaining it?

1	Deb Preston	<p>Marin - Something I consider a “must have” are electrical outlets and free wireless access for jurors. Before our jury assembly room was downsized to make room for an off-site office, we had 4 public access computers. This is really great for those who don't have a laptop. I am sorry we don't have them anymore.</p> <p>We had an informal rule of asking people to log out after 20 minutes if there were others waiting, and that seemed to work quite well.</p> <p>We do not have a fridge for jurors. Also, in my home county (not where I work) there are no windows in the jury room. From a juror's perspective, I would consider natural light and ventilation essential.</p>
2	Diane Collins	<p>Mendocino County has a Jury Assembly Room (YAY!!) We have a microwave and refrigerator for the jurors use. Since many travel long distances and have no place to go at lunch this is an asset important to them. We also have free WiFi, but no computers for them to use. Vending machines are across the hall with easy access. Bookshelves filled and maintained by our "Friends of the Library" with appropriate types of books.</p>
3	Therese Phelps	<p>Plumas does not have a jury assembly room</p>
4	Dolores Curiel	<p>Merced - We are very fortunate in Merced to have a large Jury Office and Assembly room. Our Assembly Room has its own entrance, a television, an amplification system that's crucial for jury orientation and instruction. The room seats about 160 jurors. I wish we could seat more. The room has plenty of windows on two sides of the room, so jurors receive a lot of natural lighting. The room has storage cabinets, accommodations for two clerks, public phones and its own men and women's rest-room.</p> <p>We have an adjacent Jury Break room that has a microwave, refrigerator with a water and ice dispenser on the door (we maintain). There's a coffee maker and sink in this room along with a vending machine for drinks and a couple of tables and chairs. This past year we added WIFI for those who come with a personal laptop.</p>
5	Alison Blackwell	<p>San Diego - We provide a refrigerator and a microwave at 3 of our 4 lounges. Here at the Central Branch, the custodians clean the fridge once a month, but once a week one of my staff mercilessly tosses anything that is left inside. (A sign stating as much is posted on the outside of it.)</p> <p>As for “must haves”—Wireless! This was the single most common request by jurors for quite some time. It has been hugely popular at all four locations since the program began last year. Along with that we now have an increase in requests for more electrical outlets and more tables.</p>
6	Sherry Spears	<p>Fresno - We have had two new locations in the past couple of years and besides those very important amenities 7mentioned by others (refrigerators, microwaves, vending machines, coffee makers, Wi-Fi) I would add –</p> <p>Multiple LCD screens to view DVD's and our juror PowerPoint orientation. If a computer is needed to run a PowerPoint presentation for the jurors, make sure you have a sufficient number of computers for staff to use A quiet room for jurors who do NOT want to hear/view movies A working area or wall counter for jurors to use for their laptops and/or paperwork</p>

		<p>A phone that jurors can use for local calls Enough seating for 200 people Magazine racks Microphone system(s) where you conduct orientation and at the clerk's desk area A central electronic touch pad system to run all the electronics and sound (we have this at our newest location) The speaker system should be audible in the restrooms RESTROOMS! A huge missing need in our main jury assembly room</p> <p>We have refrigerators (and microwaves) for jurors in our deliberation rooms and janitorial cleans weekly. Jurors are informed that anything left on a Friday will be tossed.</p>
9	Edwina Harper	<p>In Yolo County we are in the process of designing and building our new courthouse and these are my must have items: Wi-Fi service, along one wall I will need a long work table built into the wall with electrical outlets above and below, refrigerator, microwave, vending machines, bookshelves for books/magazines, and a few TVs for the orientation video I made. In addition, we still provide coffee for our jurors so I will need a sink big enough to wash out large coffee pots. On my wish list I asked to have a few tables provided in the vending machine area so jurors could sit and eat if they bring their lunch.</p>
10	Julie Griffith	<p>In Kern we have several different designated areas for the jurors in our assembly room. We have a separate room that has a TV that allows the jurors to change the channels (local programming only), in the main assembly area there are three TV's that are rotated through the three local channels depending on the week, a quiet area for reading, and a designated lap top area with outlets with WI/FI available.</p> <p>We have a refrigerator, microwave and several vending machines. Tables and chairs are available in different areas of the assembly room in varying sizes. We have shelving for storing games, puzzles and magazines.</p> <p>There is a designated patio area for jurors only, which can be utilized as a smoking area.</p> <p>Our PA system is tied in with the TV's in the main area and can be switched to show the jury employee calling names or giving orientation, plus there is the option to play different informational DVD's. The PA system is also wired to the outside patio area. Pay lockers are provided to store items that are not allowed through the courtroom doors. Men's and women's restroom facilities are also provided with multiple stalls in each.</p> <p>A must is enough counter space for jurors checking in to sign their names and or fill out the questionnaires in the event they have not done so prior to appearing.</p> <p>The one thing you might consider is the ability to provide a lactating area. We have had this request made a few times and have allowed the juror to use the employee break room, placing a note on the door to not enter to allow privacy.</p>
11	Morgann Halencak	<p>Mariposa does not have a Jury Assembly Room</p>
12	Patty Baker	<p>In Cherokee County, GA our Jury Assembly Room has a microwave, water cooler and vending machines. We also offer coffee, tea and hot chocolate.</p>