

SWORN JURORS~LABOR CODE

Submitted by Rebecca Hayes, Monterey

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We have a situation this week where a sworn juror did not report as ordered and the trial judge suspects that the juror's employer required her to return to work. Have any of you had this occur and if so what did you do? Report to Labor Commissioner?

Cathi Scamara	San Luis Obispo - This happened in our Court once and the Judge personally called the employer. The juror returned to Court in the afternoon.
Lynda Pierini	Madera - In Madera the judge has actually phoned the employer and needless to say the juror appeared. The juror was gave all info regarding the Codes so that if repercussions happened they could take it further on their own.
Sherry Spears	<p>We would probably call the juror first to get them to report to the court but if they didn't the court might have us issue an order to show cause. We have never contacted the Labor Commissioner on behalf of a juror but will give the juror the contact information and we also provide the Judicial Council pamphlet "One-Day or One-Trial – It's Better For Business" to jurors that indicate problems with their employers. We also advise them to give plenty of notice to their employers about their upcoming jury service.</p> <p>I can think of maybe two times where the court intervened on behalf of a juror with their employer, but it's rare.</p>