

July designated juror month

Published: Tuesday, July 7, 2009 2:48 PM CDT

The Michigan Supreme Court acknowledges that the right to a trial by jury is one of the core values of American citizenship; and the obligation and privilege to serve as a juror are as fundamental to our democracy as the right to vote.

Our courts depend upon citizens to serve as jurors. All citizens should be encouraged to respond when summoned for jury service. A continuing and imperative goal for the courts, the bar, and the broader community is to ensure that jury selection and jury service are fair, effective, and not unduly burdensome on anyone.

One of the most significant actions a court system can take is to show appreciation for the jury system and for the tens of thousands of citizens who annually give their time and talents to serve on juries. Therefore, the Justices of the Michigan Supreme Court designate July 2009 as Juror Appreciation Month.