

ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

Joey D. Maes
Chief Clerk of the Supreme Court
of the State of New Mexico

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IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

SUPREME COURT OF NEW MEXICO
FILED

NO. 00-8500

OCT 18 2000

IN THE MATTER OF
JUROR PRIVACY CONCERNS

ORDER



WHEREAS, this matter came on for consideration upon recommendation of the Jury Initiative Steering Committee chaired by former Chief Justice Richard E. Ransom, and the Court having considered said recommendation and being sufficiently advised, Chief Justice Pamela B. Minzner, Justice Joseph F. Baca, Justice Gene E. Franchini, Justice Patricio M. Serna, and Justice Petra Jimenez Maes concurring;

WHEREAS, the Court FINDS:

(1) That there is an expectation by the public at large, and jurors specifically, that personal information reported on the jury questionnaire will only be used for the purpose of selecting juries for trials in the district and magistrate courts;

(2) That the jury questionnaires may contain private and potentially embarrassing personal information regarding individuals;

(3) That jurors may be reluctant to provide information useful in voir dire if they are not assured that the information will not be revealed or used in any other manner than the selection of juries;

(4) That unprotected information gleaned from jury questionnaires may potentially be used in unlawful or unethical manners; and

(5) That keeping the jury questionnaires past the time of jury selection and any possible appeal serves no valid court purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that all jury questionnaires in possession of the court shall be destroyed ninety days after

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the term of service has expired unless an order has been entered directing the retention of the questionnaires; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all jury questionnaires in possession of others be destroyed in conformity with this rule.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Done in Santa Fe, New Mexico, this 18th day of October, 2000.



S E A L

Pamela B. Minzner
Chief Justice Pamela B. Minzner

Joseph F. Baca
Justice Joseph F. Baca

Gene E. Franchini
Justice Gene E. Franchini

Patricio M. Serna
Justice Patricio M. Serna

Petra Jimenez Maes
Justice Petra Jimenez Maes