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NATALIE PAINTER

Now that you have been subpoenaed... You have received a subpoena with a date and time to appear in court. Please report to the **3rd Floor** of the courthouse at **120 N Limestone Street Lexington, KY 40507** at the time and date indicated on the subpoena.

What is a subpoena? A subpoena is a court order mandating that you appear in a certain place at a certain time. It can also require you to bring a minor to court or present documents related to a case. The subpoena is served in person, usually by a Deputy Sheriff. If you do not comply with a subpoena, you can be found in contempt of court.

What is a Grand Jury? The Grand Jury is a group of twelve citizens selected from the jury pool to hear evidence on crimes committed in Fayette County. After the grand jurors have heard the evidence, they will decide whether or not to issue an indictment (file charges) against the defendant. Grand Jury is not held in a courtroom; therefore, a judge is not present. The only people permitted in the grand jury room are the grand jurors, the prosecutor, and the witnesses, who testify one at a time. **Neither the defendant nor the defendant's attorney is allowed to be present while witnesses are testifying.** If subpoenaed to testify before the grand jury, you will be given an oath and questioned by the prosecutor. Grand Jury members may also ask questions. After giving your testimony, you may be excused.

Why are you a witness? You have been subpoenaed as a witness because you have knowledge about some of the facts in a criminal case. The criminal justice system works best when, as a witness, you are prepared to truthfully and accurately relay the facts as you know them. This often means making a sacrifice in time and expense, but please be assured that you have been called because your testimony is needed.

If you are contacted by the defense attorney: The defense attorney that represents the defendant or an investigator that works for the defense attorney may contact you. You have the choice to talk to them or not—it is up to you. Feel free to contact the Commonwealth's Attorney's office if you have any questions.



Grand Jury Room