

S U S A N

C O M B S

TEXAS COMPTROLLER *of* PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

P.O. Box 13528 • AUSTIN, TX 78711-3528



August 24, 2011

To: County Treasurer and Auditor

From: Leonard Higgins

Subject: Changes in Juror Program beginning September 28, 2011

On July 19, 2011 the Governor signed SB 1, 82nd Legislature, 1st Called Session, which changes the reimbursement rate for jury service after the second day of service. This bill also requires the Comptroller to provide a daily reimbursement rate to the counties based on funding in the General Appropriations Act.

- *How much will the daily rate be for the first day of service?*

As of September 28, 2011, each juror is still entitled to not less than \$6 for the first day or fraction of the first day the person is in attendance in court in response to the process and discharges the person's duty for that day. (*Section 61.001 (a-1) (1) of the Texas Government Code.*)

- *How much is the daily rate reimbursement after the first day of service?*

As of September 28, 2011 each county will be entitled to an amount not less than the amount as provided in the General Appropriations Act for each day or fraction of each day the person is in attendance in court in response to the process after the first day and discharges the person's duty for that day. (*Section 61.001 (a-1) (2) of the Texas Government Code.*)

The Comptroller's Judiciary Section has determined that the county reimbursement amount will be \$28 per day or fraction of a day for juror service beginning on the second day. This amount will be reviewed quarterly and is subject to adjustment based on claims filed and remaining funds. SB 1 specifically provides that the Comptroller may permit a different rate of juror reimbursement for each quarterly payment to counties provided the funds available in the General Appropriations Act.

If you have additional questions or need further information concerning the Juror Program, please contact the Comptroller's Judiciary Section by e-mail at leonard.higgins@cpa.state.tx.us or by phone at 1-800-531-5441, extension 6-6100.

Thank you.