Getting Excused from Jury Duty

*Having an autism diagnosis does not necessarily mean you need to be excused from jury duty—this is a personal decision that should be made with your care providers*

Requesting a Medical Disqualification from Jury Duty:

1) Once you have been summoned for jury duty, you will need to respond to your “summons” by requesting disqualification.

2) You will need to obtain a letter from either a registered physician or Christian Science Practitioner that includes the following:
   - The practitioner’s letterhead, name, address, and title or degree
   - An explanation of the nature of your condition
   - The practitioner’s opinion that the condition prevents you from serving jury duty
   - The practitioner’s signature
   - The Badge Number found on your summons

3) Because autism is a lifelong diagnosis, the practitioner should state that you are requesting “Permanent disqualification”.
   - This is different than “Standard Disqualification”, which is for individuals with temporary conditions preventing them from participating.
   - Information for the practitioner on how to properly do this (there is a sample letter for permanent disqualification and information about the language that should be used) is available using this link: https://www.mass.gov/service-details/learn-about-doctors-guidelines-for-jury-duty-medical-disqualification-letters

4) Once you have the letter from your practitioner, you can send it by mail or by fax.
   - By mail:
     Office of Jury Commissioner
     560 Harrison Ave., Suite 600
5) Links with further information on jury duty and disqualifications:


- What is needed for medical disqualification: https://www.mass.gov/how-to/request-a-medical-disqualification-from-jury-duty

- Information regarding caregiver disqualification from jury duty: https://www.mass.gov/how-to/request-a-caregiver-disqualification-from-jury-duty

  - Caregiver disqualification from jury duty is if you are the sole caregiver for a person with a medical disability in your household.