

JURY DUTY

MIBFN

Michigan Breastfeeding Network

A Guide To Your Breastfeeding Rights In Michigan

WHY HAVE I BEEN CALLED TO SERVE AS A JUROR?



Jury Duty is an obligation that we all have as citizens of the United States. When we serve as a juror we represent the opinion of the people, by making sure that our laws are carried out in a just way. **When you serve on a jury as a breastfeeding mother, you bring to the table your own valuable experiences and opinions.**

WHAT IF I CHOOSE TO SERVE ON A JURY AS A BREASTFEEDING MOM?

If you decide that you would like to serve on a jury as a breastfeeding mom, here are some questions to consider:

JURY DUTY: THINGS TO CONSIDER



- 1 Are there policies in place for breastfeeding jurors?
- 2 Can I expect to be given time and a proper place to pump that is not a bathroom?
- 3 Does the court provide assistance in finding child care?
- 4 Can I seek an exemption if I learn that the trial is expected to be longer than a few days?
- 5 Do I have a personal use of a working breast pump that I can bring to court?
- 6 Do I have experience pumping outside of the home within time constraints?
- 7 Has my baby received supplemental feedings in the past?
- 8 Is my baby old enough for supplemental food?
- 9 Do I have a stored supply of expressed breastmilk?
- 10 Is the caregiver for my baby comfortable with handling feedings in my absence?

IF YOU ARE UNCOMFORTABLE WITH THE ANSWER TO ANY OF THE QUESTIONS ABOVE, you may want to consider filing for an exemption at this time. Please see the section below for details.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Many breastfeeding mothers who have been called to jury duty feel that serving while they are still nursing their child is a hardship for them and their family. [The 2012 Michigan Jury Duty Exemption Law for Nursing Mothers](#) provides these mothers with a legal exemption from jury service for the period during which you are nursing your child. **You'll need a letter from your healthcare provider** verifying that you are a nursing mother.

TOOLS FOR YOU

For more information and tools, including a [template letter for your healthcare provider](#), or to print your own copy of this handout, please visit:

www.mibreastfeeding.org/Toolkits/JuryDuty

IT'S THE LAW IN MICHIGAN



Michigan is one of the 17 states (plus Puerto Rico) that **exempt nursing mothers** from jury duty