

## **Key Terms**

**Certiorari:** a writ or order by which a higher court reviews a decision of a lower court.

**Challenge for cause:** a request that a prospective juror be dismissed because there is a specific and forceful reason to believe the person cannot be fair, unbiased or capable of serving as a juror.

**Due Process:** the constitutional guarantee of due process of law, found in the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution, prohibits all levels of government from arbitrarily or unfairly depriving individuals of their basic constitutional rights to life, liberty, and property.

**Grand Jury:** a panel of citizens that is convened by a court to decide whether it is appropriate for the government to proceed with a prosecution against someone suspected of a crime.

**Impaneled:** to enlist or enroll someone on a jury

**Impartial:** not partial or biased, fair, to not favor one side over another.

**Juror:** a member of a jury.

**Jury:** a group of persons selected by law, to determine the facts concerning a case and to render a verdict to a court.

**Jury of Peers:** a group of persons of the same legal status, that is equal to another in abilities, qualifications, age, background and social status, that will determine the facts of a case and render a verdict.

**Peremptory challenge:** a right in jury selection for the attorneys to reject a certain number of potential jurors without stating a reason.

**Sequestered:** Sequestered juries are not allowed contact with the public.

**Sua Sponte:** Latin for "of one's own accord; voluntarily."

**Venire:** an entire panel from which a jury is drawn.

**Verdict:** a judgment, decision, the answer of a jury to the court concerning a matter submitted to their judgment.

**Voir Dire:** The preliminary examination of prospective jurors to determine their qualifications and suitability to serve on a jury, in order to ensure the selection of fair and impartial jury