

31.1 Jury Deliberations.

(a) Recess.

After trial, the court may recess while the jury deliberates. The court directs the jurors that upon arriving at a verdict they must seal it, give it to the courtroom deputy, and return to the courtroom at a predetermined time for the opening and reading of the verdict.

(b) Defendant's Presence.

Unless the court orders otherwise, during jury deliberations criminal defendants must remain in the building where the trial was held.

(c) Attorney Availability.

Attorneys must be available on short notice during jury deliberations and must inform the courtroom deputy of their whereabouts at all times during deliberations.

(d) Verdict.

The defense attorney and the defendant must be in the courtroom when the court announces the verdict. The defendant is only excused if the defendant fled or was removed from the courtroom for misconduct. Unless the record clearly shows otherwise, it is presumed that the parties were present or by their voluntary absence waived their presence.