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Chief Administrative Judge

**MICHAEL V. COCCOMA**  
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## PRESS RELEASE

*September 24, 2012*

### SERVING JUROR DISQUALIFICATION PERIOD INCREASED FROM EIGHT TO TEN YEARS FOR ALL COUNTIES IN THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

The Hon. James C. Tormey, Fifth District Administrative Judge announces a new initiative to expand the disqualification period of ineligibility from eight to ten years for summoned jurors who report for at least one day of service. This is a continuation of increasing the period of ineligibility, which began in 2004 from four to six years and in 2009 from six to eight years.

This policy change was achieved through the effective management of the jury pool by commissioners of jurors with the pro-active cooperation of judges, the thoughtful consideration by jury boards and the hard work of the various administrative staff throughout the district. The five most obvious benefits to jurors, the jury system and the public are:

- . To not waste jurors or their time.
- . To reduce the frequency of jurors serving to a minimum of once in a decade.
- . To broaden the mix of random jurors in the jury pool with new jurors.
- . To increase savings to tax payers and employers by managing the jury pool.
- . To make the opportunity of jury service available to more citizens.

Under continuing jury reform initiatives by Fifth District Administrative Judge James C. Tormey and various system improvements by District Jury Coordinator Sidney Oglesby, all county jury pools can support this initiative without adverse consequences. The public can embrace this change with the confidence that their service will be appreciated and will benefit their interests throughout the Fifth District Judicial System.

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*Commissioner of Jurors*- Lewis Co. Ann Marie Hill,  
Jefferson Co. Laurie Steyer.  
Oswego Co. James Cloonan  
Oneida Co. James Goodman  
Herkimer Co. Acting, Sharon Barnes