

## Oklahoma

### § 101. Petition for Impaneling Grand Jury

---

Beginning November 1, 1989, any person, group of persons or organization desiring to circulate a petition for the impaneling of a grand jury, pursuant to the provisions of [Section 18 of Article II of the Oklahoma Constitution](#) shall file a copy of said petition with the court clerk of the county prior to the obtaining of any signatures upon such petition. Any such petition, upon its face, shall state the subject matter or matters of the prospective grand jury and shall state a reasonably specific identification of areas to be inquired into and sufficient general allegations to warrant a finding that such inquiry may lead to information which, if true, would warrant a true bill of indictment or action for removal of a particular public official.

### § 102. Order Regarding Sufficiency of Petition— Appeal

---

Within four (4) days, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, following the initial filing of any petition calling for the impaneling of a grand jury, the presiding district judge shall enter an order stating whether the face of the petition contains a reasonably specific identification of areas to be inquired into and sufficient general allegations to warrant a finding that such inquiry may lead to information which, if true, would warrant a true bill of indictment or action for removal. An order determining such petition to be deficient shall quash said petition, and shall set forth clearly in writing each and every deficiency found by said judge. Petitioners shall have two (2) days to amend the petition to conform to the district judge's order. Upon the filing of said amended petition, the district judge shall enter an order within two (2) days stating whether the face of the amended petition contains the requirements set forth in this section. Any such order quashing an amended petition shall be appealable when entered. An order determining such petition or amended petition to be sufficient shall not be appealable.

### § 103. Signature Requirements

---

Upon the entering of an order determining the petition to be sufficient, or upon the successful appeal of an order determining the petition to be insufficient, the circulators of said petition shall have forty-five (45) days to obtain a sufficient number of signatures to impanel a grand jury. Failure to obtain the requisite number of signatures within that time period shall render the petition null and void.

### § 104. False Statements to Induce Name Removal—Punishment

---

Any person who offers any payment of money, any gratuity or prize, or any other thing of value, or makes any statement known by them to be false, and who makes such offer or statement to induce a person to sign or to have his name removed from a petition to impanel a grand jury, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

### § 105. Desire to Remove Name from Petition

---

Any person who signs a grand jury petition and subsequently desires to have his or her name removed from such petition may, at any time prior to a determination by the election board of the number of signatures on the petitions, have his or her name removed from said petition by filing a request for removal with the court clerk of the county. If such request is filed with the court clerk prior to the filing of the signed petitions, the court clerk shall hold such notice and deliver it to the election board at such time as the petitions are delivered. If such request is filed after the filing of the signed petitions, the court clerk shall deliver it to the election board. If such request is filed after the election board has certified the number of signatures of said petition, such request shall be void. Such request shall clearly state the desire of the person to have his or her name removed from the grand jury petition currently in circulation and shall bear the signature and address of the person making the request.

## § 106. Filing Requirements

---

Upon the obtaining of the signatures, and within the forty-five day time limitation provided in Section 3 of this act, the completed petitions shall be filed with the court clerk. The court clerk shall copy said petitions and deliver the originals on the next business day, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, to the election board. Upon the delivery of said petitions to the election board, the board shall have seven (7) business days, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, to determine how many of the signers of said petitions are qualified electors within the county and shall return, not later than the seventh business day, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, the original petitions to the court clerk together with a certification of the number of such signers who are qualified electors within the county.

## § 107. Receipt of Certification—Sufficiency—Order Impaneling Grand Jury

---

Upon receipt by the court clerk of a certification of the number of qualified electors who have signed a petition for grand jury, the presiding district judge shall determine whether or not that number meets the requirement of a grand jury petition pursuant to [Section 18 of Article II of the Oklahoma Constitution](#). Should such number be sufficient, and should all other requirements stated above be met, the presiding district judge shall order the impaneling of a grand jury to convene within thirty (30) days of the date the certification was received by the court clerk from the election board.

## § 108. Liability for Libel or Slander

---

Any person responsible for the creation, drafting or circulating of a grand jury petition may be held liable for civil damages for libel or slander due to any false allegation made in the body of said petition, if such allegations are proven to be made with malice and with an ulterior or illicit purpose.

### Nevada

## 6.130. Permissible summoning of grand jury by filing of affidavit or petition by taxpayer.

---

1. In any county, if the statute of limitations has not run against the person offending, the district judge may summon a grand jury after an affidavit or verified petition by any taxpayer of the county accompanied by and with corroborating affidavits of at least two additional persons has been filed with the clerk of the district court, setting forth reasonable evidence upon which a belief is based that there has been a misappropriation of public money or property by a public officer, past or present, or any fraud committed against the county or state by any officer, past or present, or any violation of trust by any officer, past or present. The district judge shall act upon the affidavit or petition within 5 days. If he or she fails or refuses to recall or summon a grand jury, the affiant or petitioner may proceed as provided in [NRS 6.140](#).

2. If there is a grand jury in recess, the court shall recall that grand jury. If there is not a grand jury in recess, a new grand jury must be summoned.

## 6.132. Summoning of grand jury by filing of petition by committee of registered voters.

---

1. A committee of petitioners consisting of five registered voters may commence a proceeding to summon a grand jury pursuant to this section by filing with the clerk of the district court an affidavit that contains the following information:

- (a) The name and address of each registered voter who is a member of the committee.
- (b) The mailing address to which all correspondence concerning the committee is to be sent.

**(c)** A statement that the committee will be responsible for the circulation of the petition and will comply with all applicable requirements concerning the filing of a petition to summon a grand jury pursuant to this section.

**(d)** A statement explaining the necessity for summoning a grand jury pursuant to this section.

2. A petition to summon a grand jury must be filed with the clerk by a committee of petitioners not later than 180 days after an affidavit is filed pursuant to subsection 1. The petition must contain:

**(a)** The signatures of registered voters equal in number to at least 25 percent of the number of voters voting within the county at the last preceding general election. Each signature contained in the petition:

**(1)** May only be obtained after the affidavit required pursuant to subsection 1 is filed;

**(2)** Must be executed in ink; and

**(3)** Must be followed by the address of the person signing the petition and the date on which the person is signing the petition.

**(b)** A statement indicating the number of signatures of registered voters which were obtained by the committee and which are included in the petition.

**(c)** An affidavit executed by each person who circulated the petition which states that:

**(1)** The person circulated the petition personally;

**(2)** At all times during the circulation of the petition, the affidavit filed pursuant to subsection 1 was affixed to the petition;

**(3)** Each signature obtained by the person is genuine to the best of his or her knowledge and belief and was obtained in his or her presence; and

**(4)** Each person who signed the petition had an opportunity before signing the petition to read the entire text of the petition.

3. A petition filed pursuant to this section may consist of more than one document, but all documents that are included as part of the petition must be assembled into a single instrument for the purpose of filing. Each document that is included as part of the petition must be uniform in size and style and must be numbered.

4. A person shall not misrepresent the intent or content of a petition circulated or filed pursuant to this section. A person who violates the provisions of this subsection is guilty of a misdemeanor.

5. The clerk shall issue a receipt following the filing of a petition pursuant to this section. The receipt must indicate the number of:

**(a)** Documents included in the petition;

**(b)** Pages in each document; and

**(c)** Signatures which the committee indicates were obtained and which are included in the petition.

6. Within 20 days after a petition is filed pursuant to this section, the clerk shall:

**(a)** Prepare a certificate indicating whether the petition is sufficient or insufficient, and if the petition is insufficient, include in the certificate the reasons for the insufficiency of the petition; and

**(b)** Transmit a copy of the certificate to the committee by certified mail.

7. A petition must not be certified as insufficient for lack of the required number of valid signatures if, in the absence of other proof of disqualification, any signature on the face thereof does not exactly correspond with the signature appearing on the official register of voters and the identity of the signer can be ascertained from the face of the petition.

8. If a petition is certified as:

**(a)** Sufficient, the clerk shall promptly present a copy of the certificate to the court, and the court shall summon a grand jury. If there is a grand jury in recess, the court shall recall that grand jury. If there is not a grand jury in recess, a new grand jury must be summoned.

**(b)** Insufficient, the committee may, within 2 days after receipt of the copy of the certificate, file a request with the court for judicial review of the determination by the clerk that the petition is insufficient. In reviewing the determination of the clerk, the court shall examine the petition and the certificate of the clerk and may, in its discretion, allow the introduction of oral or written testimony. The determination of the clerk may be reversed only upon a showing that the determination is in violation of any constitutional or statutory provision, is arbitrary or capricious, or involves an abuse of discretion. If the court finds that the determination of the clerk was correct, the committee may commence a new proceeding to summon a grand jury pursuant to this section or may proceed as provided in [NRS 6.140](#). If the court finds that the determination of the clerk must be reversed, the court shall summon a grand jury. If there is a grand jury in recess, the court shall recall that grand jury. If there is not a grand jury in recess, a new grand jury must be summoned.

## 6.135. Impaneling of grand juries to investigate state affairs; payment of expenses.

---

1. Upon request of the governor, or of the legislature by concurrent resolution, the district judge of any county shall cause a grand jury to be impaneled in the same manner as other grand juries are impaneled, except that the sole duty of a grand jury impaneled under the provisions of this section shall limit its investigations to state affairs, and to the conduct of state officers and employees. The report of such grand jury shall be transmitted to the governor and the legislature.

2. The expenses of a grand jury impaneled under the provisions of this section shall be a charge against the general fund of the state, to be certified by the district judge and paid on claims.

## 6.140. Application to appellate court for order directing selection and impaneling of grand jury.

---

In any county, if the district judge for any reason fails or refuses to select a grand jury when required, any interested person resident of the county may apply to the appellate court of competent jurisdiction pursuant to the rules fixed by the Supreme Court pursuant to [Section 4 of Article 6 of the Nevada Constitution](#) for an order directing the selection of a grand jury. The application must be supported by affidavits setting forth the true facts as known to the applicant, and the certificate of the county clerk that a grand jury has not been selected within the time fixed or otherwise as the facts may be. The appellate court of competent jurisdiction pursuant to the rules fixed by the Supreme Court shall issue its order, if satisfied that a grand jury should be called, directing the county clerk to select and impanel a grand jury, according to the provisions of [NRS 6.110 to 6.132](#), inclusive.

## 6.145. Recess of grand jury.

---

Upon the completion of its business for the time being, the court may, at the request of or with the concurrence of the grand jury, recess the grand jury subject to recall at such time as new business may require its attention.

### North Dakota

## 29-10.2-02. Attorney general to request state grand jury — District court to impanel jury.

---

Whenever the attorney general considers it to be in the public interest to convene a grand jury with jurisdiction extending beyond the boundaries of any single county, the attorney general shall petition a judge of the district court for an order impaneling a state grand jury. The judge shall, upon good cause shown, order the impaneling of a state grand jury which has jurisdiction to investigate and indict for crimes committed anywhere within the state. In determining good cause for impaneling a state grand jury, the judge shall require a showing that the matter concerns multicounty criminal activities which involves organized crime as that term is defined herein or corruption of law enforcement officers or other public officers, officials, or employees. The authority and powers granted to the attorney general by this chapter do not supplant or diminish the authority and powers as set out in chapter 29-10.1.

## 29-10.2-03. Impaneling state grand jury — Selection — Composition.

---

The judge granting the order to impanel a state grand jury shall determine the counties from which the grand jurors are to be selected with due regard for the expense involved and the inconvenience of travel. The judge granting the order for a state grand jury shall notify the clerk of district court of each county from which the judge intends to select the members of the state grand jury. Upon receipt of the notice to impanel a state grand jury, each clerk of district court shall prepare a list of nine

prospective state grand jurors from existing county jury lists in the manner provided by chapter 27-09.1, and forward the clerk's state grand jury list to the clerk of district court of the county in which the order to impanel a state grand jury was granted. The judge granting the order shall impanel the state grand jury from such lists. A state grand jury must be composed of not less than eight nor more than eleven persons and each grand juror shall possess the qualifications of jurors within their respective counties as provided by law. However, not more than one-half of the members may be residents of one county. The members of the state grand jury must be selected and the foremen appointed in the manner provided by chapter 29-10.1 and shall serve a term or terms as provided therein.

## Kansas

### 22-3001. Grand juries; summoning; petition; jury instructions; membership; quorum.

---

**(a)** A majority of the district judges in any judicial district may order a grand jury to be summoned in any county in the district when it is determined to be in the public interest.

**(b)** The district or county attorney in such attorney's county may petition the chief judge or the chief judge's designee in such district court to order a grand jury to be summoned in the designated county in the district to consider any alleged felony law violation, including any alleged misdemeanor law violation which arises as part of the same criminal conduct or investigation. The attorney general in any judicial district may petition the chief judge or the chief judge's designee in such judicial district to order a grand jury to be summoned in the designated county in the district to consider any alleged felony law violation, including any alleged misdemeanor law violation which arises as part of the same criminal conduct or investigation, if authorized by the district or county attorney in such judicial district or if jurisdiction is otherwise authorized by law. The chief judge or the chief judge's designee in the district court of the county shall then consider the petition and, if it is found that the petition is in proper form, as set forth in this subsection, shall order a grand jury to be summoned within 15 days after receipt of such petition.

**(c)**

**(1)** A grand jury shall be summoned in any county within 60 days after a petition praying therefor is presented to the district court, bearing the signatures of a number of electors equal to 100 plus 2% of the total number of votes cast for governor in the county in the last preceding election.

**(2)** The petition, upon its face, shall state the name, address and phone number of the person filing the petition, the subject matter of the prospective grand jury, a reasonably specific identification of areas to be inquired into and sufficient general allegations to warrant a finding that such inquiry may lead to information which, if true, would warrant a true bill of indictment.

**(3)**

**(A)** The petition shall be in substantially the following form:

The undersigned qualified electors of the county of \_\_\_\_\_ and state of Kansas hereby request that the district court of \_\_\_\_\_ county, Kansas, within 60 days after the filing of this petition, cause a grand jury to be summoned in the county to investigate alleged violations of law and to perform such other duties as may be authorized by law.

**(B)**

**(i)** The signatures to the petition need not all be affixed to one paper, but each paper to which signatures are affixed shall have substantially the foregoing form written or printed at the top thereof. Each signer shall add to such signer's signature such signer's place of residence, giving the street and number or rural route number, if any. One of the signers of each paper shall verify upon oath that each signature appearing on the paper is the genuine signature of the person whose name it purports to be and that such signer believes that the statements in the petition are true.

**(ii)** The petition shall be filed in the office of the clerk of the district court who shall forthwith transmit it to the county election officer, who shall determine whether the persons whose signatures are affixed to the petition are qualified electors of the county. Thereupon, the county election officer shall return the petition to the clerk of the district court, together with such election officer's certificate stating the

number of qualified electors of the county whose signatures appear on the petition and the aggregate number of votes cast for all candidates for governor in the county in the last preceding election.

**(iii)** The judge or judges of the district court of the county shall then consider the petition and, if it is found that the petition is in proper form and bears the signatures of the required number of electors, a grand jury shall be ordered to be summoned. If a grand jury is not summoned because of a finding that the petition, substantially in the form required by this subsection on its face, is not in proper form, the person who filed the petition and whose name, address and phone number appear on the face of each petition shall have the right to appeal the decision to not summon a grand jury as a final judgment pursuant to [K.S.A. 22-3601](#), and amendments thereto.

**(4)** After a grand jury is summoned pursuant to this subsection, but before it begins deliberations, the judge or judges of the district court of the county in which the petition is presented shall provide instructions to the grand jury regarding its conduct and deliberations, which instructions shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

**(A)** You have been impaneled as a grand jury pursuant to a citizens' petition filed in this court, signed by (insert number) qualified electors of this county, stating (insert the subject matter described in the petition, including a reasonably specific identification of the areas to be inquired into and the allegations sufficient to warrant a finding that the grand jury's inquiry may lead to information which, if true, would warrant a true bill of indictment). You are charged with making inquiry with regard to this subject matter and determining whether the facts support allegations warranting a true bill of indictment.

**(B)** The person filing the citizens' petition filed in this court must be the first witness you call for the purpose of presenting evidence and testimony as to the subject matter and allegations of the petition.

**(C)** You may, with the approval of this court, employ special counsel and investigators, and incur such other expense for services and supplies as you and this court deem necessary. Any special counsel or investigator you employ shall be selected by a majority vote of your grand jury. You may make such selection only after hearing testimony from the person who filed the citizens' petition. You may utilize the services of any special counsel or investigator you employ instead of, or in addition to, the services of the prosecuting attorney.

**(D)** If any witness duly summoned to appear and testify before you fails or refuses to obey, compulsory process will be issued by this court to enforce the witness' attendance.

**(E)** If any witness appearing before you refuses to testify or to answer any questions asked in the course of the witness' examination, you shall communicate that fact to this court in writing, together with a statement regarding the question the witness refuses to answer. This court will determine and inform you of whether the witness is bound to answer or not. However, no witness appearing before you can be compelled to make any statement which will incriminate such witness.

**(F)** Any person may file a written request with the prosecuting attorney or with the foreman of the grand jury and request to testify or retestify in an inquiry before a grand jury or to appear before a grand jury. Any written request shall include a summary of such person's written testimony.

**(G)** At the conclusion of your inquiry and determination, you will return either a no bill of indictment or a true bill of indictment.

**(d)** The grand jury shall consist of 15 members and shall be drawn, qualified and summoned in the same manner as petit jurors for the district court. Twelve members thereof shall constitute a quorum. The judge or judges ordering the grand jury shall direct that a sufficient number of legally qualified persons be summoned for service as grand jurors. In the case of grand juries impaneled pursuant to subsection (c), the judge or judges ordering the grand jury shall allow the person that filed the petition under the provisions of subsection (c)(2), and such person's attorney, to witness the instructions to the grand jury regarding its conduct and deliberations pursuant to subsection (c)(4).