

2012 Kansas Statutes

22-3001. Grand juries; summoning; 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 investigate alleged violations of an off-grid felony, a severity level 1, 2, 3 or 4 felony or a drug severity level 1 or 2 felony. 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.

(c) 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. 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.

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. 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. 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.

(d) The grand jury shall consist of 15 members and shall be drawn 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.

History: L. 1970, ch. 129, § 22-3001; L. 1976, ch. 163, § 12; L. 1986, ch. 115, § 61; L. 2005, ch. 189, § 1; L. 2011, ch. 100, § 8; July 1.