

Office of the County Executive

Jonathan Delagrave

730 Wisconsin Avenue Racine, WI 53403 262-636-3273 fax: 262-636-3549

Jonathan.Delagrave@racinecounty.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 19, 2017

MEDIA CONTACT: M.T. Boyle (262) 636-3120 MT.Boyle@racinecounty.com

RACINE COUNTY CELEBRATES JUROR APPRECIATION MONTH

Jurors' contributions are both vital and greatly appreciated

Racine – Clerk of Circuit Court Samuel Christensen joins County Executive Jonathan Delagrave and Racine County judges to highlight Juror Appreciation Month, which is held each September to recognize the citizens who answered the call and completed their jury duty, and to underscore the honor and importance of serving on a jury.

"Being a juror is a tough job. Understandably, many do not want to report for service in the first place. Then, those who are selected for a jury have to make oftentimes difficult decisions that really affect lives," Christensen said. "It is an extremely important job and – a lot of times – a thankless one."

Nearly 16,000 residents were summoned to serve as jurors in Racine County in 2016. Statewide, nearly 200,000 people are summoned to serve in Wisconsin each year. Under Wisconsin law, jurors are eligible for one month of service every four years. The Racine County Circuit Court narrowed that eligibility to only one week of service every four years. Jurors are selected at random from a master list using the Wisconsin Department of Transportation's database of people with driver's licenses or identification cards.

Juror Appreciation Month provides an opportunity to show past, current and prospective jurors that their contributions are both vital and greatly appreciated by the Racine County Circuit Court. "We want every juror to feel appreciated and to know how much we value their time and commitment to our system of justice," Judge Timothy Boyle said.

Programs are being held in circuit courts across the state this month as part of Juror Appreciation Month. Additional information about jury service in Racine County can be found at the Clerk of Courts' Website at www.racinecounty.com/clerkofcourts and other Wisconsin resources can be found at https://jury.wicourts.gov.

For more information, contact Samuel Christensen at 262-636-3517.