

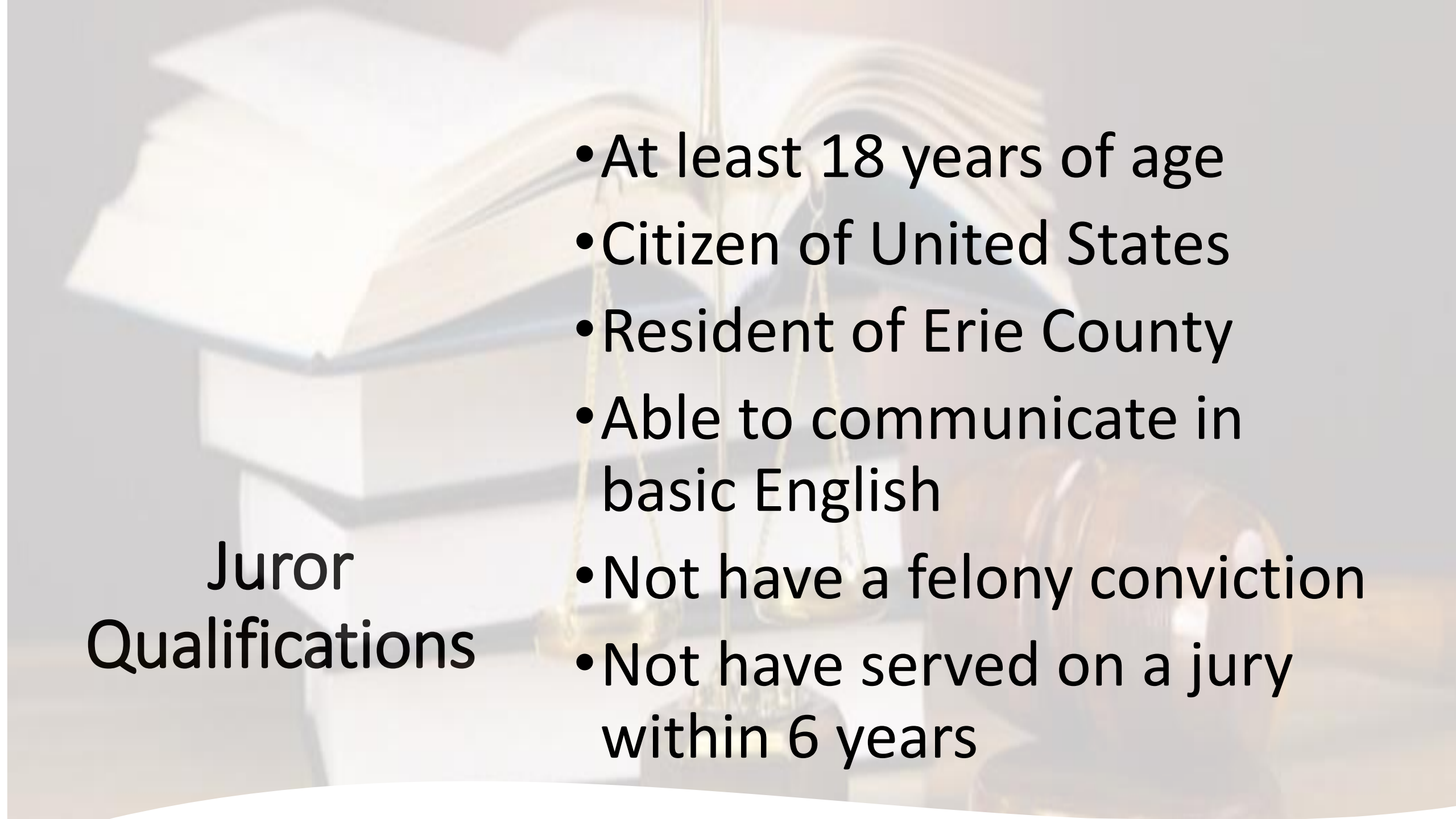
Jury Selection: Invisible Barriers





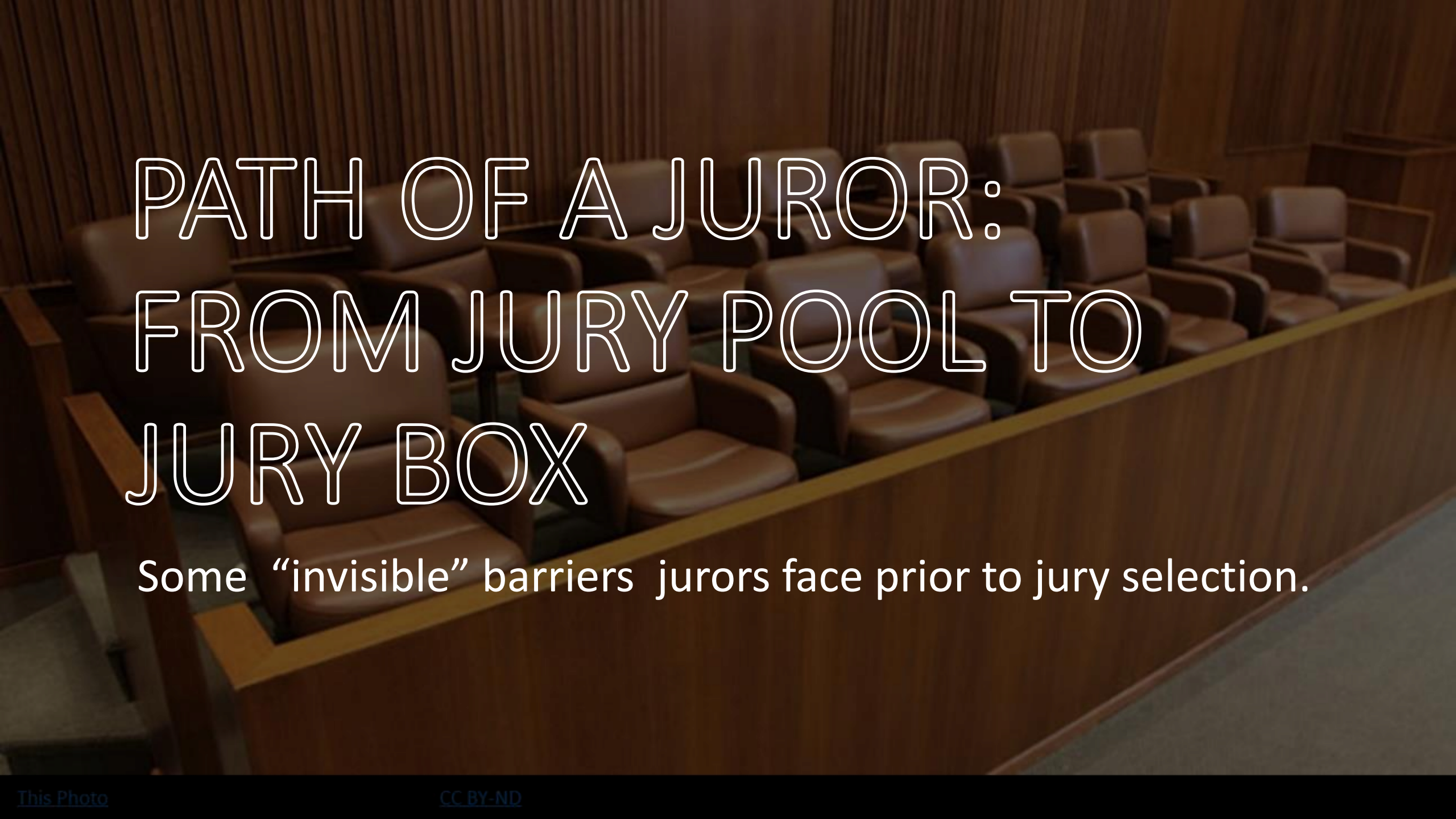
Role of the Commissioner of Jurors

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- Oversee jury operations and supply all Courts in Erie County with qualified jurors
 - Geographic: 8th largest County in New York State
 - Statistics of Erie County



Juror Qualifications

- At least 18 years of age
- Citizen of United States
- Resident of Erie County
- Able to communicate in basic English
- Not have a felony conviction
- Not have served on a jury within 6 years


A photograph of a courtroom jury box. The room features wood-paneled walls and a series of rows of brown leather chairs. The chairs are arranged in a semi-circular or rectangular pattern, facing towards the front of the room. The lighting is warm and somewhat dim, creating a serious and formal atmosphere. The text is overlaid on the image in a white, outlined font.

PATH OF A JUROR: FROM JURY POOL TO JURY BOX

Some “invisible” barriers jurors face prior to jury selection.



Jury Selection Process & Source Lists

1. New York State Department of Tax
 2. New York State Department of Labor
 3. Department of Social Services
 4. Department of Motor Vehicles
 5. Board of Elections
 6. *Volunteers
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JUROR OUTREACH & EDUCATION

Oh, the places we've been.....

What has worked well for us

- All hands-on deck
- Meet people where they are
- Target populations
- Partnerships: “Juror Diversification Initiative”

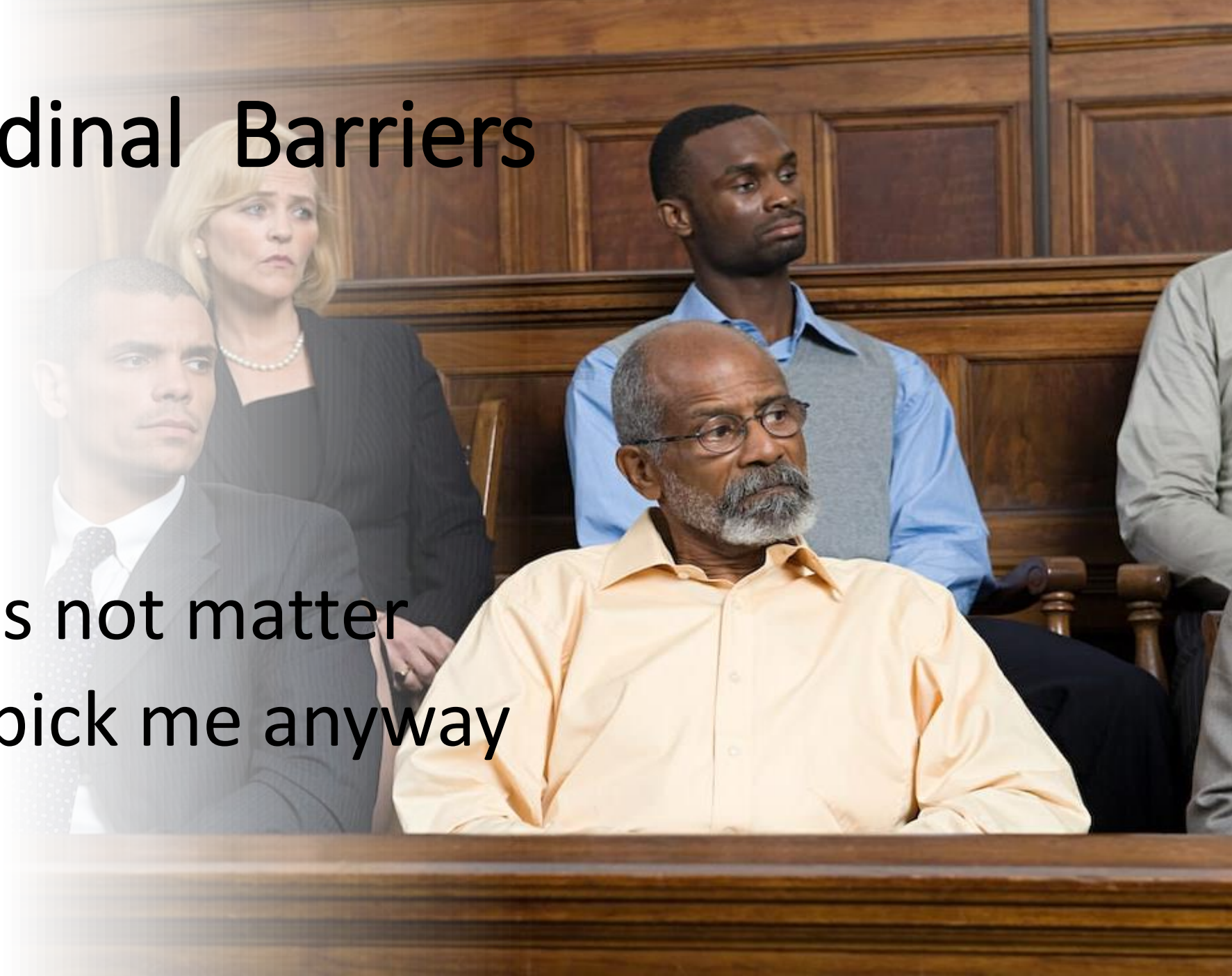


Barriers Prior to Selection

- Most Common:
 - Child care, Elder care, compensation
- Attitudinal barriers:
 - Lack of accurate information
 - Do not understand the process
 - Numerous misconceptions

Other Attitudinal Barriers Mentioned

- Lack of trust
- Opinion does not matter
- No one will pick me anyway





What Else Are We Doing?

Teach. Share. Empower

Overall Juror Experience

- Call in reporting
- Technology
- One day, one trial
- Postponement/reschedule
- Report less frequently

A photograph of three people in a meeting room. A man in a suit and glasses is on the left, gesturing with his hands. A woman is in the center, looking at a document. Another woman is on the right, looking towards the man. They are sitting around a table covered with papers and documents. The background shows a window with a broom on the sill.

From the perspective of a Juror

“..... For me, my jury duty experience changed my life forever in a positive way and allowed me to serve as a citizen.”