

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS  
ORDER OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
AMENDED GENERAL ORDER 20-0023**

**IN RE: AUTHORIZATION FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN  
TO ACCESS JURY RECORDS AND RELEASE OF STUDY**

The Federal Defender Program for the Northern District of Illinois, in collaboration with Professors Jeffrey Abramson and Mary Rose of the University of Texas at Austin, has completed an initial Study of the Revised Jury Plan for the U. S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois (“the Study”) and submitted findings to this Court (see General Order 18-0004). The Study has significant value to the public, members of the legal community, educators, court administrators and judges from other courts that may benefit from the review of this Court’s continued work to improve the District’s juror diversity. Professors Abramson and Rose now seek additional data, not available during the initial phase of their work.

This Court recognizes the critical importance of transparency in its efforts to promote and expand juror diversity. The Court therefore hereby orders:

1. Professor Abramson and Rose’s July 7, 2020 letter to the Court qualifies as a written “petition” setting forth the reasons for requesting access in compliance with §10(b) of the Court’s expired jury wheel. Working in collaboration with the Federal Defender Program, the professors seek access to the expired 2017 jury wheel for this court, the U. S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, in order to assess the impact of changes to the Court’s Jury Plan on racial and ethnic diversity in our jury pools. As authorized by statute, 28 U.S.C. § 1868, the Clerk of Court shall make AO12 documents for the 2017 jury wheel for the Eastern and Western Divisions available to Professors Abramson and Rose.
2. Professors Abramson and Rose are authorized to publish the methodology and results of the Study, with the goal of helping other judicial entities across the country.
3. The Clerk of Court will publish a copy of the Study on the Court’s website in order to make a copy of the results available to the public.

**ENTER:**

**FOR THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**



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Hon. Rebecca R. Pallmeyer, Chief Judge

Dated at Chicago, Illinois this 27<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2020