

# Summary Jury Trial Articles

## [Summary Jury Trial – Untapped Tool for Effective State Courts](#)

Trial judges throughout the United States realize that with burgeoning civil trial lists and overloaded criminal and family court dockets, it is absolutely necessary...

## [Summary Jury Trial FAQ](#)

For the hard to find answers to questions regarding the use of summary jury trials. This guide offers an objective point of view of the summary jury trial system, and gives detailed instructions on how to make it work.

## [When Mediation Fails: The Summary Jury Trial Alternative](#)

Consider this common settlement scenario: At the conclusion of your mediation in a Title VII case, you have reached a stalemate with opposing counsel and her client. One of you bottomed out at \$300,000, the other refused to go higher than \$60,000. The mediator suggested that the case should settle around \$150,000, but neither side was interested. You know you've got a great case, but it's obvious opposing counsel feels the same way. Is trial your only option?

## [Mandatory Mediation and Summary Jury Trial: Guidelines for Ensuring Fair and Effective Processes](#)

Finally, because these consensual processes do not include the procedural protections involved in traditional adjudication, mandatory mediation and SJT legislation must include safeguards ensuring that these processes are fair and effective.

## [Summary Jury Trial Orientation Instructions](#)

Counsel are going to try this in an expedited fashion in order to minimize costs and in-convenience to all of the parties to this matter. This case will be presented by counsel from testimony which has been collected and assembled for presentation in summary fashion from interrogatories and depositions and affidavits, all of which were answered under oath.

## [Summary Time Blues – The National Pulse](#)

BACK IN 1980, WHEN U.S. DISTRICT Judge Thomas Lambros of Ohio pioneered something he called the "summary jury trial" to spur settlements, the judge faced a crowded docket and cases that languished while waiting for trial dates

## [8<sup>th</sup> District Journal – The Advantages of the Summary Jury Trial](#)

## [Summary Jury Trials by Arthur Spieger](#)

In the short time provided, I have to clear up any confusion among you by explaining what the summary jury trial is today and how it works; its evolution, philosophy, and effectiveness. ... At the voir dire, as well as in the Court's preliminary instruction, we follow the procedures utilized in regular jury trials except for my explanation that there will be no live testimony and the jury will be assisting the parties to resolve their dispute.

## [The Jurist – The Success of Summary Jury Trials](#)

Chatauqua County's Summary Jury Trial project continues to be a huge success at clearing the Supreme Court calendar and minimizing time and expense for litigant. And now, these one day trials are being used to efficiently resolve cases in Erie and Niagra counties, proving that the program works even in larger urban areas.

## [Reconfiguring the Summary Jury Trial](#)

The widespread interest in alternative dispute resolution (ADR) has resulted in a proliferation of techniques and strategies, each promising important contributions to the fair and efficient resolution of disputes. Judicial policy makers are understandably interested in reaping the benefits offered by particularly effective ADR methods. Faced with limited resources to develop and implement ADR programs, however, policy makers must choose among competing approaches--a choice often made difficult by limited information on how particular processes have performed.

## [Improving Summary Jury Trials: Insights from Psychology](#)

Although it might not be feasible to require the number of juries that a research psychologist would use for the purposes of conducting publishable research, one could nevertheless achieve more reliable data for a SJT by assembling the equivalent of eight or nine juries worth of individuals to attend the same SJT sessions, and then grouping them into separate juries for the purposes of deliberations

## [Compelling Alternatives: The Authority of Federal Judges to Order Summary Jury Trial Participation](#)

In recent years, congestion in the dockets of federal courts has worsened because of increased civil filings and the introduction of newly created substantive rights. ... A competent attorney, through careful analysis of material obtained during discovery, should be able to form a general understanding of the trial strategy his opponent would use even before the SJT begins

## [The Summary Jury Trial as a Method of Dispute Resolution in Federal Courts](#)

All ADR techniques seek to control courts' dockets by guiding disputes toward settlements rather than trials. ... Judge Lambros also has written in favor of a Rule 16 basis for local rules authorizing summary jury trials and further stated that even in the absence of a local rule that authorized summary jury trials, judges can find authority for summary jury trials in Rule 16's broad pretrial management provisions.

## [The Summary Jury Trial and Other Methods of Alternative Dispute Resolution](#)

I have been asked to discuss alternatives to existing methods of judicial dispute resolution. The great interest in such alternatives reflects the widespread sense, which I share, that our courts are dangerously overloaded. I had originally planned to discuss a variety of alternatives, but as I explored the literature I became fascinated with the summary jury trial, and realized it was a subject worthy of an entire paper. But much of what I shall say about the summary jury trial applies to other alternatives as well, so that the paper is not quite so narrow as it may seem; and Part III discusses two of those alternatives.

## [Mandatory Summary Jury Trial: Playing by the Rules?](#)

Judges have grown accustomed to evaluating their performance by their ability to dispose of cases quickly. But their efforts to slow the backlog of federal cases have only met with an astronomical increase in the case load of the federal courts. To address this problem, judges now are turning to methods of alternative dispute resolution ("ADR") and are trying to enlist the help of the parties themselves in making ADR work. Among the techniques judges are exploring is the summary jury trial

## [The Summary Jury Trial – Ending the Guessing Game: An Objective Means of Case Evaluation](#)

My Eureka Moment came when I first envisioned the concept of an abbreviated trial or a "summary jury trial" (also referred to as the "SJT") as a means of predicting outcomes and providing clients an opportunity to be a part of the forecasting process, thus reducing the tensions with no alternative available for obtaining a more objective case evaluation. ... Settlement offers were even exchanged during the course of the trials, although settlements were not reached in either case.

## [Summary Jury Trails in Charleston County, South Carolina](#)

The "frontiers of tort law" are procedural, as well as doctrinal and theoretical. Sooner or later, influential views of the tort system develop doctrinal and, thus, procedural manifestations. For instance, the claims of tort reformers who argued that the civil litigation system permits plaintiffs with weak claims to fool juries led to rules tightening the admissibility of evidence.

## [Summary Jury Trial Schedule in Mecklenburg County, NC](#)

A sample schedule of a successful Summary Jury Trial, so that any who is interested can see how long one typically runs, and the order of operations.

## [Mecklenburg County Summary Jury Trial Pretrial Order](#)

Notice of evidence to be used is to be given to opposing counsel in the form of a list of witnesses whose testimony will be summarized, a reference to deposition.

### [Associated Pennsylvania Contractors et. al. v. David L. Jannetta et. al.: Order for Summary Jury Trial](#)

The Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania issued an executive order that created the Office of Minority and Women Business Enterprises and the DGS published a statement of policy which established Minority Business Enterprise and Women's Business Enterprise participation objectives for PennDOT projects. The corporations argued that the DGS and PennDOT policies created a quota system and classifications based upon race and gender that were remedial in nature and not supported by any finding of identified discrimination.

### [Summary Jury Trial Characteristics: North Carolina State Courts, 1987-1991](#)

Table with case type, binding with low/high stipulations, Summary Jury Trial, or SJT, result, case outcome, primary SJT issue, time of complaint to SJT, SJT length, estimated trial time.

### [New York State Supreme Court Eight Judicial District Summary Jury Trial Program: Bench Manual](#)

The procedures in the "Summary Jury Trial Program Bench Manual" are intended as a guide for Judges conduction Summary Jury Trials as part of the Eighth Judicial District Alternative Dispute Resolution Program. It can be used as a "step-by-step" guide for Judges whose civil jury trial experience, especially in negligence cases, is limited, or as a check list of the experienced trial judge.

### [Jury Pool News: 'Mini-Trials' Prove Cost-Effective Way to Seek Justice](#)

What a difference a day makes, It's certainly an adage that applies to Chautauqua County's innovative summary jury trial project, whereby litigants in less complicated lawsuits can literally have their day in court, getting same-day feedback from jurors and learning how the case would likely fare if it were to go to a full trial.

### [McKay v. Ashland Oil](#)

Plaintiffs, former officers of a corporation who alleged that they were wrongfully discharged, objected to the court's decision to set a summary jury trial. When the Seventh Circuit ruled that a district court could not require the parties to participate in a mandatory summary jury trial, the plaintiffs filed a motion to reconsider the court's decision regarding the use of a summary trial.

### [Hall v. Ashland Oil](#)

Plaintiff administratrix brought suit against defendant chemical company in a product liability claim arising out of decedent's exposure to benzene, allegedly manufactured and sold by the company to decedent's employer. The complaint was based upon theories of strict products liability, negligence, and breach of warranty for failure to test the product, warn of its dangers, or instruct as to its safe use. The company requested summary judgment

### [Superior and District Courts Rule 23: Summary Jury Trials](#)

The senior resident superior court judge of any superior court district or a presiding judge unless prohibited by local rule may upon joint motion or consent of all parties order the use of a summary jury upon good cause shown and upon such terms and conditions as justice may require. The order shall describe the terms and conditions proposed for the summary jury proceeding.