

STATE OF TENNESSEE

OFFICE OF THE
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Opinion No. 04-146

Juvenile Serving on a Jury

QUESTION

May a juvenile serve on a jury in Tennessee?

OPINION

No. Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 22-1-101, a person under the age of eighteen (18) is not qualified to serve as a juror.

ANALYSIS

Tenn. Code Ann. § 22-1-101 sets forth the basic qualifications for jury duty. “Every person eighteen (18) years of age, being a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the State of Tennessee, and of the county in which the person may be summoned for jury service for a period of twelve (12) months next preceding the date of such summons, is legally qualified to act as a grand or petit juror, if not otherwise incompetent under the express provisions of the code.”

This statute expressly states that potential jurors must be eighteen (18) years of age; therefore, any person under the age of eighteen (18) is not qualified to serve as a juror.

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