

NOTICE TO THE BAR

UPDATES TO MODEL CIVIL JURY CHARGES

The Supreme Court Committee on Model Civil Jury Charges has approved the following list of revised Model Civil Jury Charges for use by the bar and trial courts. All approved Model Civil Jury Charges, including these revised charges, are available for downloading from the Judiciary's web site at <http://www.judiciary.state.nj.us/civil/civindx.htm>.

1.11C PRELIMINARY CHARGE (Approved 11/1998; Revised 5/2010 to Add Reference to Use of the Internet and Other Electronic Media; Revised 4/2012 to Clarify Importance and Scope of Prohibition; Revised 8/2012)

This charge was revised to add a reference to the use of the Internet and any other device to the prohibition on jurors researching the case on which they sit.

Also, any type of research outside of the courtroom may lead to a penalty being imposed upon the person who violates this directive, or fails to advise the Court if another member of the jury has violated this directive.

1.12I GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR STANDARD CHARGE (Approved 11/98; Revised 8/2012)

The first sentence of this charge was revised to provide additional clarity by replacing the word "providing" with "proving" to the charge as a substantial factor. The sentence was revised to read as follows:

- The party with the burden of proof has the burden of proving his/her/its claim by a preponderance of the evidence.

1.12Q GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR STANDARD CHARGE (Approved 11/1998; Revised 8/2012)

The third paragraph of this charge was rewritten to read more fluidly. This charge was revised as follows:

- As I indicated in my preliminary instruction to you, if I determined that any one of you has violated this rule, it may result in a mistrial or in a penalty being imposed on the person who violated the rule or fails to advise the Court if another member of the jury has violated this rule.

Questions regarding any of these revised civil jury charges may be directed to Leslie Santora, Esq., Chief, Civil Court Programs, Administrative Office of the Courts, Hughes Justice Complex, P.O. Box 981, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0981; phone (609) 984-5431; e-mail leslie.santora@judiciary.state.nj.us.

/s/ Glenn A. Grant

Glenn A. Grant, J.A.D.
Acting Administrative Director of the Court

Dated: August 29, 2012