

## Judge orders juror to jail in dispute over questionnaire

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By **Brad W. Gary** of the Tribune

A 2nd District Court judge ordered a Lewiston man to jail earlier this week for failing to fill out a juror qualification questionnaire.

John G. Wright was found in contempt of court after he allegedly refused to fill out a questionnaire sent each month to county residents who are picked for jury duty. Wright reportedly ignored the document, and a warning letter sent as a reminder to prospective jurors.

Judge Jeff M. Brudie called Wright into court Thursday. Brudie told Wright the law mandates he fill out the form to determine if he qualifies for jury service, and that he was not aware of any exemption.

"I rescinded all my signatures on any and all past contracts; I am not a registered voter," Wright responded, according to a recording of the hearing.

Wright, who has filed multiple counter claims and argued that "I do not give my consent" to court hearings in an unrelated criminal case, was taken into custody when he did not respond to the judge's order to fill out the form in court.

"I do not give you my consent to arrest me," Wright said as he was taken into custody. "I fear for my life."

The judge told Wright he would be released when he filled out the form. He remained in Nez Perce County Jail custody Friday evening.

Nez Perce County Clerk-Auditor Patty O. Weeks said most people who fail to return the original questionnaire simply forgot and are quick to complete it when a warning letter is mailed.

Wright already faces felony charges of offering false or forged instruments for record for allegations he submitted fraudulent documents to Weeks' office last year in attempts to release Wright from his \$161,000 mortgage loan with GMAC Mortgage, according to 2nd District Court records. A jury trial in that case is set for May 3.

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