







Present law provides that upon the request of a juror and in the discretion of the court, the jury may take with it or have sent to it any object or document received in evidence when a physical examination thereof is required to enable the jury to arrive at a verdict.

Present law provides a procedure whereby jurors may be permitted to take notes during a trial.

Present law requires that confidentiality of the notes during the trial and the jury's deliberation shall be preserved by the trial judge. The trial judge will cause the notes to be destroyed immediately upon return of the verdict.

Present law provides that lack of consent by either the defendant or the state to allow a juror to take notes during a trial will not be communicated to the jury.

Proposed law removes the restrictions placed on juror in a criminal case to take notes during the trial and allows jurors to take notes.

Proposed law provides that the trial judge will ensure the confidentiality of the notes during the course of the trial and the jury's deliberations and requires the court to collect and maintain any and all notes made by each juror at each recess and to return to each juror his individual notes upon reconvening.

Proposed law mandates the court to destroy the notes immediately upon return of the verdict.

Proposed law provides that the court may allow the jury to take with them any object or writing received in evidence, except depositions and except as otherwise provided in the La. Code of Evidence.

Effective August 1, 2012.

(Amends C.Cr.P. Art. 793, 801, and 808)