

## SAMPLES of Scripted Statements/Oaths

### **Opening Court:**

The clerk/bailiff will call the Court to order... saying, "All Rise" for the Honorable Judge(s)

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.

The \_\_\_\_\_ Court is now in session, the Honorable Judge \_\_\_\_\_ presiding."

After the judges are seated, everyone may be seated.

(Clerk/Bailiff) will call the... "The Court will now hear the case of

\_\_\_\_\_."

The presiding judge will then ask the attorneys for each side if they are ready to proceed.

### **Clerk/Bailiff...Qualifying Oath to Jurors (before prospective jurors are examined by attorneys):**

Each of you do solemnly affirm that you will well and truly answer such questions as may be asked of you as to your qualifications to serve as a trial juror in the mock case now at issue.

### **Clerk/Bailiff...Oath to jury trying the Mock Case (after 12-person jury is selected and court has convened):**

Each of you do solemnly affirm that you will well and truly try the mock case now

### **Clerk/Bailiff...Oath to Witnesses (before each witness takes the stand):**

You do solemnly affirm that your testimony in the mock case now at issue will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

### **Oath of Bailiff (before jury leaves the courtroom to deliberate):**

You do solemnly affirm that you will keep this jury together in some private and convenient place and permit no one to communicate with said jury (including

yourself) unless instructed to do so by the court. Nor will you ask them if they have agreed upon a verdict, but return them into court when they have so agreed and ordered to do so by the court.

**Judge to Jury...(Civil cases):**

Is this verdict as filed and read to you, your verdict of at least eight or two-thirds of your number?

**Judge to Jury...(Criminal cases):**

Is this verdict as filed and read to you, your verdict so say all \_\_\_?\_ (normally 12 member jury panel) of your number?

**Judge Addresses the Courtroom:**

We are here today in the case of the State of Utah vs. \_\_\_\_\_.  
We will now proceed to seat the jury.

Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, you have been selected to serve today in a **(presiding judge will state the charges)**. It will be your duty, before the Court today, to hear the evidence given by the witnesses and observe how they testify. It will be your privilege and your decision alone to believe or not believe any witness and to give each witness' testimony the weight you think appropriate.

Our American system of justice depends upon the civic virtue of you, our citizens, to put aside your activities and to fairly consider the case presented to you. We trust and believe you will perform your tasks responsibly and well. Thank you for being here.

**Judge to Attorneys:**

The Prosecution may make its opening statement. **(followed by...)**

The Defense may make its opening statement.