

# THE PEOPLE'S PARDON

*Jury Nullification: How Ordinary Citizens Can Stop Tyranny*

## **JURIES ARE A KEY LINE OF DEFENSE AGAINST TYRANNY**

*When you sit on a jury, you are the last line of defense between the government and the individual. Not the judge. Not the law. You.*

*Jury nullification is when a juror votes “not guilty” because the prosecution, the law, or its application is unjust — even if the technical elements of the crime were technically met. No explanation required. No punishment allowed. Totally legal.*

***A juror cannot be punished for their decisions in the jury room. Period.***

## **TRUMP CONTROLS THE DOJ. HE CANNOT CONTROL TWELVE FREE CITIZENS**

*Trump's DOJ is weaponizing the courts. The charges are real. The targeting is political. Protesters are charged with felonies for recording protests or throwing sandwiches. Members of Congress who lawfully told soldiers to refuse illegal orders were threatened with indictment. Activists, journalists, and dissidents are hauled into court not for what they did — but for who they are and what they said. This is selective prosecution. It's vindictive prosecution.*

***And juries are already saying no:***

- *A federal grand jury refused to indict a DC protester on felony charges for the “sandwich incident.” [The criminal jury then acquitted him too.](#)*
- *An [LA jury acquitted a protester](#) charged with assaulting a border patrol agent — in under an hour.*
- *When Trump's DOJ sought to indict all six members of Congress for advising soldiers not to carry out illegal orders, [the grand jury refused.](#)*
- *Federal grand juries in both Norfolk and Alexandria [declined to indict](#) New York AG Letitia James with the judge citing [“a disturbing pattern of profound investigative missteps.”](#)*

***The courtroom is one of the last places where the people still hold the cards.***

## **IT'S FOUNDATIONAL TO STOPPING TYRANNY**

*Jury nullification is American as it gets. It's how people have pushed back against tyranny for centuries:*

- *1735 — A New York jury acquitted printer John Peter Zenger for criticizing the colonial governor, establishing early press freedom.*
- *1850s — Northern juries gutted the Fugitive Slave Act by refusing to convict those who helped freedom-seekers escape.*
- *Prohibition — An estimated 60% of juries acquitted in alcohol cases. Nullification made the law unenforceable. It was repealed.*

***They used it to reject Fugitive Slave Laws. They used it to gut Prohibition. Now it's our turn.***

***“One juror can hang a jury. One person can stop a conviction. You.”***

***“Prosecutors can indict a ham sandwich. A jury can refuse to eat it.”***

***“Nullification is conscience in action — and conscience is what tyranny can’t survive.”***

***“If the law is being used as a weapon, the jury is the shield.”***

***“The people’s pardon is always available. You just have to know it exists.”***

***“When systems fail to deliver justice, the people must.”***

## **YOUR RIGHTS IN THE JURY ROOM**

- Vote “not guilty” for any reason you believe is just. No partial credit for the prosecution — every charge must be proved beyond reasonable doubt and meet your moral standard.
- You never have to explain your verdict. Not to the judge, the prosecutor, or other jurors.
- A judge cannot direct you to convict. Even if they imply it. Even if the jury instructions suggest it.

Ask yourself in the jury room: Was this person targeted, or was the law justly applied? Was anyone actually harmed? Does the punishment fit the crime?

***“Don’t check your conscience at the courthouse door.” — Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor***

## **GET ON A JURY TO VOTE YOUR CONSCIENCE**

Getting selected is key. Here’s how to get there:

- Keep your address current so summons reach you. Respond promptly.
- During voir dire (jury selection), say you’ll listen to the evidence before forming conclusions. Dress neutrally. Brief answers only.
- Never mention jury nullification. Don’t signal an agenda.
- Once you’re in that room and the door is closed: vote your conscience.

## **WHAT’S LEGAL, WHAT’S PROTECTED, AND WHAT TO AVOID**

***Discussing jury nullification publicly is legal — the ACLU and courts have confirmed it.***

### **Unambiguously legal:**

- Educating the public about jury nullification rights
- Handing out flyers near courthouses (*U.S. v. Hecklen* — dismissed; found legal)
- Voting “not guilty” as a juror for any reason, including moral or political ones

### **Legal but risky:**

- Publicly stating you intend to nullify before selection — protected speech, but you’ll likely be removed from the pool.
- Discussing nullification with jurors before deliberations begin — may be treated as misconduct.

**⚠ Don't do these:**

1. **Targeting a specific juror:** approaching a juror on an active case to influence their vote — that's potentially jury tampering, a federal crime.
2. **Targeting a specific case:** organizing a campaign aimed at the jury in a specific case — that may be perceived as obstruction of justice. Keep advocacy general.
3. **Lying during voir dire:** making false statements under oath during jury selection. Brief and neutral is fine. Lying is perjury.
4. **Disclosing jury deliberations:** discussing deliberations while a case is active — grounds for contempt or mistrial in many jurisdictions.
5. **Claiming you nullified:** saying post-verdict that you nullified may help the prosecution later on. Say nothing, or consult an attorney first.
6. **Coordinating with a defendant:** if you have a relationship with a defendant and conceal it to get on their jury, that's fraud and contempt. Nullification is for strangers.

***Know your rights. Show up. Vote your conscience.***

*The jury room is where the people still hold sovereign power. Trump can fire officials, issue orders, weaponize agencies. He cannot tell twelve citizens how to vote.*

**Get trained, watch webinars, learn more at: [FreedomTrainers.net/jury-nullification](https://FreedomTrainers.net/jury-nullification)**

Sources: [Freedom Trainers Jury Nullification Training](#); [Fully Informed Jury Association](#); [ACLU](#); [Protect Democracy](#); [U.S. v. Hecklen](#) (S.D.N.Y. 2012). This memo is for educational purposes only and is not legal advice.