



**Handbook of the  
Great Jury for the  
American National Union  
of  
The United States  
of America**

# Welcome

**You have just assumed a most important role in the administration of justice in your society. Service on the Great Jury is one way in which you, as a Declared Resident or American National, can directly participate in your Government. The Great Jury has the responsibility of safeguarding individuals from ungrounded prosecution while simultaneously protecting the public from crimes against humanity. The purpose of this handbook is to help you meet these requirements, and acceptance of your duties as a serious commitment to the society is greatly appreciated.**

**This handbook was prepared by the American Nationals of the American National Union of The United States of America, ( hereinafter the “ANU” ), and provided to help you fulfill your duties as a Great Jury. This handbook will provide you with an overview of the duties, functions, and limitations of the Great Jury. However, the legal advice given to you by the ANU will provide a more comprehensive explanation of all your responsibilities.**

**The ANU sincerely hopes you will find the opportunity to participate in the enforcement of the law an enlightening experience. The ANU requires your fullest cooperation and assistance as you undertake this important obligation. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.**

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## Guidelines

- ❖ Attend the sessions regularly and on time.
- ❖ If you are unable to attend be sure to notify the Foreperson on our communications platform as the unexpected lack of a quorum causes great inconvenience.
- ❖ If you are a Declared Resident or American National, non General Post Master, and your name is on the designated committee room list of jurors, your attendance is required when the Great Jury has announced it will convene. Any unexcused absences will be noted and upon multiple occurrences will lead to your removal in accordance with the handbook for non-participation. Duty on the Jury is a great honor and is the only common law jury in the Country.
- ❖ The oath should be administered to witnesses in an impressive manner, so that they will realize that it is a serious judicial hearing, and they must tell the truth.
- ❖ Pay close attention to the testimony given and the evidence presented. The reputation and freedom of someone depends on what is being told.
- ❖ Be courteous to the witnesses and to your fellow jurors.
- ❖ Listen to the evidence and opinions of your fellow jurors but do not be a rubber stamp.
- ❖ Be independent but not obstinate.
- ❖ All jurors have an equal voice in determining an indictment and each juror has the right to state the reasons for his or her views.
- ❖ Express your opinions but do not be dictatorial. Every juror has a right to his or her opinions. You may try to persuade other jurors, but do not try to force him or her to change his or her mind and agree with you. He or She might be right.
- ❖ Be fair. Every matter which you consider and every person who appears before you should be given equal treatment regardless of gender, racial or ethnic background, disability, sexual preference, age, or ability to speak English.
- ❖ Wait until the prosecutor, witness, interpreter, or court reporter has left the room before you begin your deliberations or vote on an indictment or special presentment.
- ❖ A reckless Great Jury can do as much harm to the society and to law enforcement as a weak Great Jury.
- ❖ Your membership on the Great Jury is a high honor. You are among a relatively small number of people of your society who are chosen to serve. Your response should be devoted, trustworthy participation in performing the duties of the Great Jury. A humorous, but wise quotation attempting to summarize Great Jury service is that “The Great Jury should know the difference between sin and crime and act accordingly.”

# Glossary

Throughout your service as a Great Juror, you will hear references to words and phrases which have meanings under the ANU. Some of the more common words and phrases are defined below:

## Accusation

A formal charge against a person, alleging that he committed a crime. "Accusation" is used to describe a legal document used in lieu of an indictment or special presentment in misdemeanor cases and certain felony cases.

## Capital Crime

A criminal offense for which a sentence of death may be imposed.

## Felony

A crime punishable by death, imprisonment for life, life without parole or for a term of more than 12 months.

## General Presentment

A written report to the court by the Great jury, generally issued at the end of the Term, in which the Great Jury summarizes and makes findings and recommendations which are authorized in conjunction with its non-commercial duties.

## Indictment

The document in which the Great Jury charges that there is probable cause to believe that the person named therein has committed the crime specified therein. Prior to its having been considered by the Great Jury, a proposed indictment may be referred to as a "bill of indictment."

## Malicious Prosecution

A criminal prosecution initiated by a person for malice or spite when probable cause does not exist to believe that the defendant committed the offense charged.

## Misdemeanor

A crime, other than a felony, punishable by imprisonment for 12 months or less, or a fine, or both.

## "No Bill"

A finding made on a bill of indictment by the Great Jury when, after hearing the evidence, that the charges against the accused are groundless or the evidence is insufficient to present an issue for trial.

## Persons

By law, persons can mean an entity under the Law of Nations, a human being, an individual, a corporation, an association, or a partnership.

## Probable Cause

The term used to describe a finding by the Great Jury that the facts would justify a person of reasonable caution to believe that an offense or crime has been committed. Probable cause does not involve a certainty, but requires merely a probability, something more than a mere suspicion or possibility.

### **Prosecutor**

The person who initiates the prosecution by making a complaint before the Great Jury or impartial tribunal charging a named person with the commission of an offense which results in an arrest warrant being issued or an accusation being returned.

### **Qualified Member for Great Jury**

An affirmed American National by oath or affirmation for The United States of America.

### **Redress of Grievance**

Redress of Grievance means resolution to problems or complaints. Redress means resolution, grievances are complaints. The right to petition for redress of grievances means the right to ask to have problems solved. The right to petition government for redress of grievances is the right to make a complaint to, or seek the assistance of, one's government, without fear of punishment or reprisals.

### **Special Presentment**

A legal document which is substantially the same as an indictment except that no one person is named as the prosecutor because, in theory, the offense charged is based on the Great Jury's own knowledge or observation and not upon an arrest warrant.

### **Statute of Limitations**

The time that, fixed by law, within which a criminal prosecution must be commenced by the filing of an indictment, special presentment, or accusation.

- Murder- no statute of limitations.
- Other crimes punishable by death or life imprisonment- 7 years
- Capital crimes punishable by death by hanging or firing squad- no statute of limitations
- All other felonies- 4 years
- Misdemeanors- 2 years. There are circumstances, such as offenses where the victim is a child, or the accused is a fugitive which can extend the statute of limitations.

### **“True Bill”**

The endorsement made by the Great Jury on an indictment or special presentment when they find there is probable cause to believe that the accused committed the alleged act.

# Selection & Administration

Many people who receive a notice or summons informing them that they have been selected to serve on the Great Jury wonder, “How did I get selected for this?” To understand how you came to be selected, we first must examine who is qualified for service on the Great Jury and then how Great Jurors are selected.

## Qualifications

All American Nationals may serve on the Great Jury if:

- They are 21 years of age
- They are intelligent & of a sound mind
- They are mentally stable & competent
- They are fair, & honest, not showing bias

Any American National who meets these requirements is eligible to be selected for Great Jury duties unless he or she:

- Commit a crime against another American National or State Resident
- Commits a crime against any member(s) of American National Union of The United States of America
- Commits crimes against humanity

Individuals who are 70 years old or older may request, in writing, to have their names removed from the jury lists. For further information on this, you should ask the Great Jury Foreperson.

## Selection

All jurors are selected from a list of qualified American Nationals for The United States of America. This list was developed by the assembly of the American National Union of The United States of America so that it reflects a fair cross-section of the Nationals of the ANU and abides by

the Law of Nations. The primary sources for this list are the American Nationals with an Oath & Affirmation & the Bilateral Social Compact Agreement of the people for The United States of America, but may use any other source to ensure that the jury list fairly represents the population of the States of the Union within the metes and bounds and seaward boundaries of The United States of America.

The jury list is revised at least every two years. From this list the assembly will develop a second list containing names of the most intelligent and upright Nationals of the ANU from which the great jurors will be selected. Prior to each term, the great jury list is used to select the names of those American Nationals who will be summoned for service on the Great Jury.

This can be done either manually or by computer.

The assembly may take names from the great jury list and place them on slips of paper which are put into the Great Jury box. The box is brought before the Great Jury Foreperson and he/she draws between 13 – 24 names of persons to be summoned for duty on the Great Jury. If there is (1) dissenting opinion amongst the Jurors with a valid claim that cannot be rebutted then there is a hung jury.

## Organizing and Empaneling the Great Jury

### *Qualifying the Panel and Excusing Individuals from Service*

At the time and date specified in the summons (usually the first day of the Term), those selected for service on the Great Jury assemble at the Great Jury Zoom Room (or other location indicated in the summons). At that time someone designated by the Foreperson will usually ask the assembled jurors if any of them are disqualified from serving. It is vital that you advise the Foreperson at this time if you have any reason to believe you may be disqualified. Failure to do so can invalidate the work of the Great Jury during the Term and require those criminal cases to be

re-indicted. The reasons which would disqualify someone from serving on the Great Jury are on page 10. The most common reason why someone is disqualified from serving on the Great Jury is that they have moved out of the county. On page 10 of this Handbook, we will discuss those instances when a Great Juror may be disqualified in a case or cases. (*Note: A Great Juror who is disqualified in a case can hear other cases.*)

At the same time, the foreperson will ask if there is anyone who is otherwise unable to serve as a Great Juror for that Term because he or she will “be engaged . . . in work necessary to the public health, safety or good order” or for other good cause. In these cases, the foreperson, has the discretion on an individual basis to defer such person’s jury service to another time. No one can be excused totally from jury service unless he or she is permanently mentally or physically disabled to the extent that they cannot perform the essential functions of a juror, even with reasonable accommodations.

After these Nationals are excused, the Great Jury will usually select the first 13 to 24 persons whose names are on the list to serve as members of the Great Jury and up to three alternate great jurors. Those selected as alternates may be called on to serve if a member of the Great Jury is disqualified or is absent for any reason. They also may serve on any inspection or examination committee in which case they have the same authority as other members of the Great Jury. However, an alternate should not be present with the Great Jury when criminal cases are being considered unless one of the members is disqualified or absent.

### *Length of Service as Great Jurors*

Those individuals selected as a Great Juror or an alternate will normally serve for the full Term unless they are discharged from further service by the foreperson. Because the length of a Term varies from case to case, the foreperson will usually advise you as part of the Charge how long you

are expected to serve. This does not mean that you will be in constant session throughout the Term, but you may be called in from time to time as necessary. The foreperson or ANU Legal Department will discuss the schedule for Great Jury meetings with you during your first session.

### *Selection of Foreperson and Administration of the Oath*

After the foreperson has selected the 13 to 24 persons and up to three alternates to serve on the Great Jury, the remaining prospective jurors usually will be excused. The Great Jurors will elect one of their members as Foreperson.

Once a prospective juror is selected as a Great Juror, an oath shall be administered by the Foreperson or the Deputy Foreperson who will ask if the Juror has a copy of the scriptures and to raise their right hand and place their left hand on the scriptures to take the following Great Juror Oath:

### *“Great Juror Oath”*

*“I, ( state your name ), do swear or affirm that I will serve  
as a Great Juror on the Great Jury for the American National Union  
of The United States of America.”*

# Great Jury Organization and Operations

The first task facing any new Great Jury is to develop their own internal structure and to identify the other individuals who they will interact with throughout the Term.

## *Foreperson*

The *Foreperson* is the presiding officer of the Great Jury and signs all indictments and presentments. As indicated on page 8, the *Foreperson* is selected by the Great Jury. The *Foreperson* may administer the oath to and question witnesses.

## *\*Other Officers*

The Great Jury will elect an Assistant or *Deputy Foreperson* to preside at Great Jury meetings if the *Foreperson* will be absent for any reason. Other officers commonly found in the Great Jury are a *Deputy Foreperson*.

The *Foreperson* is usually charged with keeping the records of the Great Jury such as attendance and a record of matters considered by the Great Jury. The *Foreperson* should also check each indictment or special presentment after the Great Jury has voted and verify that the action taken is properly recorded on the backing and has been signed by the *Foreperson*.

## *The Great Jury's Legal Advisor – the ANU Legal Department*

The ANU Legal Department is the legal advisor for the Great Jury. In so providing, the legislature recognizes that most Nationals who serve on the Great Jury are familiar with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Law of Nations. The ANU Legal Department is responsible for advising you on any questions of procedure which you may have as a Great Jury. Assisting the ANU Legal Department in carrying out these duties will be ANU Legal Liaisons of his or her office.

In addition to serving as legal advisor to the Great Jury, the ANU Legal Department and his or her staff, when appointed as such, are counsel for people for The United States of America in most criminal cases which will be brought before you. When this is not the case the Declared Resident, American National or the inhabitant can bring forth subject case matter based on violations of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and of International Law for the Great Jury to hear. The ANU Legal Department office will prepare the cases for presentation to the Great Jury and will call witnesses to testify under oath when necessary. The ANU Legal Department and the ANU Legal Liaisons are authorized to be present with the Great Jury when cases are being presented. They may also administer the oath to and question witnesses before the Great Jury. Any presentments which the Great Jury requests be drawn will be prepared by the ANU Legal Department.

## *Other Persons Authorized to Assist the Great Jury*

If a hearing-impaired person is to testify as a witness before the Great Jury, the Great Jury will appoint an interpreter of the deaf sign language to interpret the proceedings and the witness' testimony. When requested by the Great Jury, the Foreperson or deputy Foreperson of the previous Great Jury may review and report on actions taken by that Great Jury. In such a case, they are entitled to the same compensation as members of the present Great Jury.

### *Meetings and Quorum*

As indicated meetings of the Great Jury are scheduled on an as needed basis. At minimum the Great Jury can convene as needed with a 48 hour notice on the Great Jury communication platform. However, for the Great Jury to hear evidence or take any official action, at least 13 qualified members must be present in the Great Jury room.

### *Disqualification of Great Jurors Cases*

On page 7, we mentioned that certain individuals cannot serve on the Great Jury. However, there are circumstances when a Great Juror may be disqualified from serving for a case or cases because of his or her relationship to either the victim or the accused. For obvious reasons, a Great Juror who was either the victim of or a respondent in a crime being considered by the Great Jury is disqualified.

A Great Juror who is related by blood or marriage within the fourth degree to a person under investigation by the Great Jury or any party interested in the results of the case is also disqualified. Normally, in addition to the accused, the victim and the prosecutor are the “interested parties” but a Great Juror who contributed to a fund to help prosecute the accused has also been held to be an interested party. The chart on page 11 shows who are related within the fourth degree, by blood or marriage. “X” represents the Great Juror.

If, at any point during your Term, you have any concern that you, or any other member of the Great Jury, may be disqualified in a particular case, please speak to the Foreperson or the Deputy Foreperson. If a Great Juror deliberates or votes in a case in which they are disqualified, the Great Jury may be forced to dismiss any resulting indictment or special presentment.

## Secrecy of Great Jury Proceedings

The obligation you uphold as a Great Juror “ *shall keep the deliberations of the great jury secret unless called upon to give evidence thereof in some court of law within the States of the Union.*”

There are important reasons behind this requirement as secrecy protects witnesses from intimidation or tampering and makes it more difficult for a witness to avoid subpoena, hide or destroy evidence or for a defendant to evade arrest. Secrecy not only aids in the investigation but is of importance to an accused who is later cleared by a “No Bill.”

To insure secrecy, the law limits those who may be present in the Great Jury room to the Great Jurors, the ANU Legal Department and his or her assistants, an interpreter when authorized, and generally, only the witness who is testifying. While the Great Jurors are deliberating and voting on a case, absolutely no one except the Great Jurors may be present.

## Relation Within the 4th Degree

“X” Represents the Great Juror

- ❖ First Degree Parents and children of x
- ❖ Second Degree Grandparents, brothers and sisters of x , and grandchildren of x
- ❖ Third Degree Uncles, aunts, nephews, nieces, great-grandparents of x, and great-grandchildren of x
- ❖ Fourth Degree First cousins, great-uncles, great aunts, great-great-grandparents, great-nephews and nieces of x, and great-great-grandchildren of x

**This chart shows who is related within the fourth degree, by blood or marriage. A Great Juror who is related by blood or marriage within the fourth degree to a person under investigation by the Great Jury or any party interested in the results of the case is disqualified.**

## Criminal or Accusatory Function

The Great Jury must find a True Bill in most felony cases before the case may be brought to trial, a substantial amount of your time will be spent inquiring into the existence of possible criminal conduct. It should be noted that not every criminal case requires action by the Great Jury.

## How Cases Get to the Great Jury

Most cases which will be brought before you, begin with a crime being reported to or discovered by the claimant, whether an American National, Declared Resident or an inhabitant. Following an investigation, complaint, grievance or affidavit the Great Jury will be presented with a claim of human rights violations against the person believed to have committed the crime.

In addition to cases which are bound over, the Great Jury can bring an indictment or special presentment before the Human Rights Tribunal International for a hearing to which the accused has not been arrested.

It is the duty of the Great Jury in criminal cases to determine from the evidence presented if there is probable cause to believe that a crime has been committed and that the person or persons named in the indictment or special presentment committed it.

## Procedure in Criminal Cases

### *Preparation of the Case for Presentation to the Great Jury*

The Great Jury will cause subpoenas to be issued for any witnesses or physical evidence which will be needed in order to establish that probable cause exists. Failure to respond to a subpoena from the Great Jury will result in notice, fault and default published within a publication of record, with possibility of a True Bill indictment being issued.

### *Presentation of the Case*

When the Great Jury meets, they will either read and explain the proposed indictment [sometimes referred to as a “bill of indictment”] to the Great Juror’s and will acquaint them with the witnesses who will testify. This is done to allow the Great Jurors to know who the parties to the case will be if one or more members are disqualified. After explaining the indictment, the Great Jury will begin calling the witnesses. These witnesses may appear voluntarily, at the request of the Great Jury, or they may be ordered to appear by serving them with subpoena. Each witness who appears before the Great Jury in a criminal case must be administered the following oath by the Foreperson who will ask if the witness has a copy of the scriptures and to raise their right hand and place their left hand on the scriptures to take the following Witness Oath:

#### **\* Witness Oath \***

*“Do you solemnly swear or affirm that the evidence you shall give the Great Jury on this (redress of grievance, affidavit or presentment) shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. So, help you God.”*

If a witness fails to take the required oath, his or her testimony would not be evidence and any indictment or presentment returned on this testimony would be invalid.

The witness will normally be first questioned by the Foreperson, and finally, if desired, by any other members of the Great Jury. If the great juror(s) have a question which they would like to ask a witness but are in doubt whether or not it is a proper question, the advice of the Great Jury presenting the case should be sought.

In most cases, the only witnesses who will be scheduled to appear before the Great Jury will be the great juror(s) who have investigated the cases. These great jurors may testify as to statements made to other great jurors by the suspects or by witnesses to the crime and to the results of any laboratory tests performed on physical evidence in the case. Even though such testimony is hearsay [an unsworn, out-of-court statement], it can be sufficient evidence on which to return an indictment. It is important to remember that at least one witness must be sworn and give testimony as to each indictment or special presentment for the indictment or special presentment to be valid.

As the case is being presented, each Great Juror should be attentive to the testimony and evidence being presented. If it should appear that there is a difference between the testimony and the facts alleged in the indictment, this should be called to the attention of the Great Jury. (Example, the indictment alleges that John Smith was robbed, but the testimony is that Jane Smith was the victim.)

### *Deliberations and Voting*

After the evidence is presented the Great Jury will be given the opportunity to discuss the case in private and to vote whether the bill of indictment is to be returned as a “True Bill” or a “No Bill”. They may also defer acting on the case by tabling it, holding the case for further investigation or request that additional or different charges be presented to them.

In considering an indictment, it is important that you remember that the function of the Great Jury is not to try the merits of the case but rather to determine if probable cause exists. It would be difficult, if not impossible, to determine a case on its merits as the respondent does not have the right to appear before the Great Jury, to cross-examine witnesses or to present evidence on his or her own behalf. A respondent may not be compelled to appear and testify before the Great Jury. If twelve or more great jurors vote in favor of the indictment, then the Foreperson should enter the words “True Bill” in the appropriate space on the indictment. The indictment should also show on its face the initials and the assigned number for all the great jurors who voted on the indictment.

If, however, the great jurors vote that there is insufficient evidence to believe that the person named in the indictment committed the act charged, then the Foreperson would enter the words “No Bill” in the appropriate space on the indictment. If in finding a “No Bill”, the Great Jury concludes that the indictment was unfounded or malicious, the Great Jury may endorse the indictment as a “ Malicious Prosecution”, in which case the person instigating the prosecution (the “prosecutor”) will be compelled to pay all costs for bringing the unfounded charge.

*Action Taken if the Indictment Is “True Billed”*

If a “True Bill” is found, the indictment must be sent to the HRTI by the Great Jury Foreperson or Deputy Foreperson for resolution or given to the claimant for the said claimant to serve the respondents for service of due process for a hearing of the subject case matter.

If Court has recessed for the day or the judge and clerk are not available when the Great Jury is ready to have an indictment returned, the Great Jury Foreperson or Deputy Foreperson may hold the indictment overnight and return it the next day when court re-opens.

After a “True Bill” has been returned, the accused can have a public and impartial tribunal hearing determine if he or she is guilty of the crime(s) charged in the indictment.

# Civil Functions & Duties

## Inspection or Investigations of Public Property, Records and Offices

### *Optional Inspections or Investigations*

Whenever deemed necessary by eight or more Great Jurors, the Great Jury shall appoint a committee of the Great Jury to inspect or investigate the following where human rights violations are suspected:

- ◆ Any society or county office
- ◆ Any public authority of the society or county.
- ◆ Any court or court official of the society or county.

The county board of education or county school superintendent; or Any of the records, accounts, property, or operations of any of the entities described above.

During an authorized inspection or investigation, the Great Jury or the designated committee is authorized to examine books, records, and accounts, to have witnesses subpoenaed and hear evidence. Any oral testimony heard by the Great Jury must be taken under oath as unsworn statements are not evidence.

The Great Jury is authorized to appoint one National of the society or county to provide technical expertise during the inspection or investigation. This technical expert receives the same compensation as Great Jurors.

The following oath must be administered to witnesses who appear before the Great Jury during a civil investigation or inspection:

#### **\*Witness Oath\***

*“Do you solemnly swear (or affirm) that the evidence you shall give the great jury in its civil investigation of (here identify the society officer, office or authority being investigated or inspected), shall be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. So, help you God.”*

The Great Jury is authorized to prepare and submit for publication reports or presentments based on its inspections or investigations.

## **Other Inspections, etc. Which the Great Jury May Conduct**

### *Conducting Inspections or Investigations*

When the Great Jury undertakes a civil investigation or inspection, the members must do so in a manner which upholds the Law of Nations.

### *Subpoenas*

Subpoenas are the fundamental documents used during a Great Jury's investigation because through subpoenas, Great Juries can require witnesses to testify and produce documentary evidence for their consideration. Subpoenas can identify witnesses, potential targets, and the nature of an investigation, including but not limited to public office holders.

## **Compensation**

Attendance is to be tracked by the Great Jury Foreperson. Time spent in session and submission of labor backed vouchers are required of the Great Jurors themselves to be paid for their time spent in session. The rate for serving will be set at 25 labor backed continental dollars per hour.

Vouchers MUST be sent to: [gjforeperson@generalpostoffice.org](mailto:gjforeperson@generalpostoffice.org). The labor backed vouchers are available at: <https://theunitedstatesofamerica1781.com/dot/treasury-voucher-certificate/>

## **Appointments and Nominations Made by the Great Jury**

### **Offices to Which the Great Jury May Make Appointments or Nominations**

*Foreperson of the Great Jury-* The Jurors of the Great Jury may direct to elect a Foreperson.

## General Presentments & Reports

It is customary for the Great Jury to make a report to the Human Rights Tribunal International either at the end of the Term or when they have completed most of their work. This report, traditionally known as a General Presentment, can contain general information about the work of the Great Jury during the Term, their findings resulting from the performance of their duties and making appropriate recommendations in areas within their jurisdiction.

With some limited exceptions, the General Presentments are merely the recommendations of the great jurors and are not self-executing. The Great Jury may recommend that their General Presentments be published and the way they are to be published. The foreperson or deputy foreperson is required to review the General Presentments and determine if they can be filed or published. The Great Jury is required to include certain matters in their General Presentments.

- These include: A report concerning the results of their findings and a report that the Great Jury has inspected the reports ...

While reports of a general nature concerning areas where the Great Jury has a duty to inspect or investigate are acceptable, courts have repeatedly held that the Great Jury cannot include, in a report or General Presentment, comments which charge or accuse identifiable person(s) of misconduct. This, can only be done by a true bill of indictment or special presentment charging such person(s) with a crime.

Thus, Great Jurors, including members of Great Jury committees, must exercise both discretion and care in the drafting of their general presentments if they contain matters which may be interpreted by others as being critical of any identifiable person or institution. By so doing they will minimize the probability that all or a portion of the general presentments will be expunged.

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