

1 **13-2009. Verdict of jury.**

2 [~~Upon~~] On retiring to the jury room, and before commencing your deliberations, you will
3 select one of your members as foreperson.

4 You will be given the Court’s instructions and [a special] verdict form[s]. [In this case it
5 will be necessary for you to answer the preliminary questions presented to you on the verdict form.]

6 Take the time you need to consider whether your verdict might be influenced by stereotypes and
7 biases and reflect carefully and consciously about the evidence. In the course of your deliberations,
8 listen to your fellow jurors, who all have their own lived experiences. Listening to different
9 perspectives with an open mind may help you better identify the possible effects of hidden biases.

10 When as many as [ten] [five] of you have agreed [~~upon~~] on a verdict [and your answers to
11 the questions presented on the special verdict form], your foreperson must sign the appropriate
12 form[s] and you will all then return to open court.

13 USE NOTES

14 This instruction should be given in every case. The bracketed language in the second and
15 third paragraphs is used when special interrogatories or preliminary questions are presented under
16 verdict forms UJI 13-2217 NMRA or UJI 13-2220 NMRA. [~~Where~~] When used instead of the
17 special verdict form questions, “special interrogatories” should be substituted for “preliminary
18 questions.” The instruction is given without the bracketed language [~~where~~] when a general verdict
19 form is used.

20 [As amended, effective November 1, 1991; as amended by Supreme Court Order No. S-1-RCR-
21 2023-00041, effective for all cases pending or filed on or after December 31, 2025.]

22 **Committee commentary.** — In civil cases in New Mexico, a majority of the jury renders
23 the jury’s verdict. Rule 1-038(F) and (G) NMRA. The verdict is announced by a jury foreperson.

- 1 The verdict must be in writing and signed by the foreperson. Rule 1-038(F) and (G). Chapter 22
- 2 of these instructions contains the appropriate jury verdict forms for general verdicts and special
- 3 verdicts accompanied by special interrogatories or answers to preliminary questions necessary to
- 4 rendering of a verdict in cases of comparative fault.