Superior Court of California County of Orange



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News Release

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Improve Orange County Apply Now to Serve on the Grand Jury

The Superior Court of Orange County encourages qualified citizens to apply to serve on the 2012/2013 Grand Jury. Service is a full-time commitment for one year, from July 2, 2012, to June 30, 2013. Nineteen Orange County residents will be selected.

"I encourage eligible Orange County residents to apply," said Presiding Judge Thomas J. Borris. He added, "Through its watchdog role, the Grand Jury provides an important service for residents by examining problems and identifying solutions for local government agencies."

The Grand Jury provides oversight of County government, schools, and special districts. Annual site visits include the Sheriff's forensics laboratory and jails, John Wayne Airport, County harbors and beaches, and the San Onofre nuclear power generating station. Past Grand Jury investigations have focused on timely issues such as compensation paid by Orange County cities, the condition and management of Orange County jails, and emergency preparedness of public schools.

Grand Juror Selection Requirements:

- At least 18 years old
- A United States citizen
- An Orange County resident for at least one year
- Sufficiently fluent in written and spoken English, and possessed of ordinary intelligence, sound judgment, and fair character

Each qualifying applicant is interviewed by a panel of Superior Court judges, and is subject to a background investigation conducted by the O.C. Sheriff's Department. Grand Jury members are selected by a random draw of applicants nominated by the judges of the Superior Court.

Grand Jury applications, information, and past reports are available online at <u>www.ocgrandjury.org</u>. Application packets are also available at the Jury Commissioner's Office at the Central Justice Center, 700 Civic Center Drive West in Santa Ana, or by calling the Grand Jury Hotline, (714) 834-6747. <u>The deadline to apply is January 13, 2012</u>.