



Superior Court of California
County of Orange

NEWS RELEASE

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**Bring Change and Improvement to Orange County
Apply to Serve on the Grand Jury**

Santa Ana, CA – Today the Superior Court received a resolution from the Orange County Board of Supervisors in recognition of Grand Jury Awareness Month – November 2008 – and the importance of serving on the Orange County Grand Jury.

For the next three months, the Court encourages qualified citizens to apply for the 2009-2010 Orange County Grand Jury. Applications will be accepted until January 9, 2009. Nineteen Orange County residents will be selected to serve as grand jurors. Service as a grand juror requires a full-time commitment for one year, from July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010.

The work of the Grand Jury is important and has a significant impact on the lives of Orange County residents. Grand Jurors review and evaluate the work of government agencies, schools and special districts within the County of Orange. Past reports have focused on timely issues such as security at John Wayne Airport, the welfare of Orange County's foster children, and disaster planning for Orange County Schools. The Grand Jury also considers evidence for criminal indictments.

Grand Jurors attend tours and briefings to increase their knowledge of the workings of various county agencies and to help them evaluate and assess potential problems in our county. Annual visits include the sheriff's forensics laboratory and jails, John Wayne Airport, Orange County harbors and beaches, and the San Onofre Nuclear Power Generating Station.

A grand juror must be at least 18 years of age or older, a United States Citizen, and have resided in Orange County for at least one year. Before being nominated, each qualifying applicant is interviewed by a panel of Superior Court judges. Background investigations, including record checks of state and local law enforcement agencies, are conducted by the Orange County Sheriff's Department.

Applications may be obtained on the Internet at www.ocgrandjury.org, by calling the Grand Jury Hotline at (714) 834-6747 or at the Jury Commissioner's Officer located in the Central Justice Center, 700 Civic Center Drive, West Santa Ana, California between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

A mandatory orientation program for prospective grand jurors will be held January 20, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. in Department C-1 at the Central Justice Center, 700 Civic Center Drive West, Santa Ana.