



Press Release

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF MONO

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Release Date: March 8, 2024

Mono County Celebrates Civil Grand Jury Appreciation Month in March

The Mono County Board of Supervisors recently honored the important work done by the Civil Grand Jury by adopting a resolution that proclaims March as Civil Grand Jury Appreciation Month in Mono County. The Mono County Superior Court was pleased to have Supervisor Rhonda Duggan sponsor and read the proclamation into the public record.

According to Louis Panetta, past president of the California Grand Jurors' Association, "We all know there are many issues that arise about the activities of local government and special districts. Just read some letters to the editor or attend a public meeting and you'll hear many varied opinions. Some of the issues that are raised can become the subject of investigations by the Civil Grand Jury members within a county."

Civil grand juries are independent bodies that investigate city, county, school district, and special district administration and governance reviewing their effectiveness, governmental efficiency, and taxpayer expenditures. Ideas for investigations generally come from three sources: citizen complaints, matters raised by the members of the grand jury, and referrals from the preceding grand jury.

The jurors in Mono County are appointed to serve on the Civil Grand Jury by Presiding Judge, Honorable Mark Magit. These volunteers dedicate a year of service to the watchdog body to investigate specific local government activities. Each year, reports are produced that are available for viewing at the Mono County Superior Court courthouse or on their website at <https://www.mono.courts.ca.gov/general-information/jury-service/grand-jury>.

The function of the Civil Grand Jury is to ensure that the entity under investigation is adhering to the laws that govern the operations of that entity. While it has no authority to order compliance with its recommendations, their reports often result in positive change. Entities respond to the recommendations and those responses become part of the published reports. The implementation of many recommendations has been brought about by this public visibility.

Please join the Mono County Superior Court in celebrating these tireless citizens that have volunteered to be members of the Mono County Civil Grand Jury. If you would be interested in volunteering for this important civil responsibility, please contact the Mono County Superior Court. The term of the Civil Grand Jury runs from July thru June and the Court is actively recruiting for the 2024-25 Grand Jury.