



CGJA News - March 2017

The courts and most of our affiliated CGJA chapters throughout California are actively recruiting members for the next term of civil grand jury service. I thought I would share some of the ideas that are being utilized in various counties. They might give chapters and others some new ideas.

The Shasta County Chapter has developed a relationship with a local bank that is committed to community service. Member Larry Johnson noticed that the bank allowed organizations to hang banners on the street side of their building. He checked with the authorized bank person who gave him permission to hang a 3 foot by 30 foot banner on the outside wall. The bank even offered to help pay for the banner. Now hanging for its third recruiting season, the banner prominently reminds citizens of the opportunity to join the grand jury.

Larry also notes that he had a letter published in the local daily paper thanking the bank for their help to the chapter and the Superior Court, a recognition appreciated by the bank. This year the bank is donating their advertising space in a local magazine to recruiting grand jurors. Partnering with a local business that is interested in community service can really advance the efforts of the local chapters. Sometimes you just need to ask.

An idea the El Dorado County Grand Jury Association is working with this year is one that could be easily adopted by other chapters. President Chuck MacLean thought that yard signs might be effective and has found a printer who is doing 4-color, 22 inch by 28 inch signs, on a lightweight plastic board with posts for \$8 each. The group is planning on putting them on mostly county properties throughout the area. Chuck will have to let us know how effective the chapter thinks they were.

The Kern County Chapter secured an interview on local TV and set up a table at a local pro hockey team's game where they answered people's questions about grand jury service.

In other counties, many chapters have had their board of supervisors declare a Civil Grand Jury Month, usually February or March. In Marin County a local judge has made an excellent recruiting video that is being distributed. It is available to watch on YouTube, as [Marin County Civil Grand Jury PSA](#).

I encourage you to visit our website, [cgja.org](#). Under the Member Business, Chapter/Association Information, Chapter Projects you will find a wealth of information and ideas on recruiting. And please share with our members any activities you are using for recruitment by contacting the Grand Jurors' Journal acting editor Jerry Lewi (editor@cgja.org). He will be grateful for any input on your activities in this regard

Andi Winters
President, CGJA

Our website has been inaccessible since Tuesday morning, March 14, because of a hard disk crash experienced by our website provider (affecting hundreds of the provider's websites in addition to our own). We are in constant contact with our provider to make certain that access is restored as soon as possible.

We will notify you when our website is again online.

In the meantime, if you want to discuss with us any information or feature provided by our website, please contact us at editor@cgja.org.

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