

CGJA EXCELLENCE IN REPORTING AWARDS

WHAT YOU WILL NEED in order to submit a nomination online:

- A. Whether the nomination is for A) Best Grand Jury report, B) Best Media Coverage award or C) Both
- B. County
- C. Date and title of the specific report being nominated for the Best Grand Jury report (if A or C).
- D. Name(s) of media outlet or reporter(s) nominated for the Best Media Coverage award (if B or C).
- E. Chapter, Association, or CGJA member (if no CGJA Chapter or Association) submitting the nomination
- F. Contact name (if different from above)
- G. Contact mailing address
- H. Contact telephone number
- I. Contact e-mail address
- J. Either online links (URLS) or electronic copies of supporting documentation for the following:
 - 1. Nominated grand jury report (Best Grand Jury Report) and/or media outlet (Media Coverage award)
 - 2. Official response(s) to the report by county agencies or individuals, as required by the investigation (for A or C).
 - 3. Media coverage of the report (in all cases).
- K. Rationale: A brief explanation of why this nominee should receive the award.

AWARD CRITERIA

Grand Jury Reporting award

Report quality – legible, documented, succinct, complete, and understandable.

Citizen Impact: Importance or severity of problem

Duration/persistence of the problem

Difficulty of the investigation - many agencies, bureaucratic interference (e.g., denials, subpoenas), etc.

Substantiated findings and recommendations within the report

Exposure of the report by the media, or response from the public

Documented success of the investigation

Grand Jury Media Coverage award -- Nominations may be based on the coverage of a specific grand jury report or on the overall coverage given to a grand jury throughout the year.

The criteria for the Media Coverage Award include:

Increased familiarity with and understanding of the grand jury system

Increasing public awareness of a specific grand jury investigation

Improved public understanding of the issue investigated

Community awareness of the outcome of a grand jury investigation

If you have questions, please contact Barbara Sommer, Excellence in Reporting (EIR) Subcommittee Chair, at basommer@ucdavis.edu. She will acknowledge receipt of the online nomination submission within a few days.