

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 (download rating form at cgja.org/excellence-reporting-award)

- Significance of the issue, topic rationale.
- Clear description of the investigation.
- Findings follow from facts, recommendations based on the findings.
- Clarity of language, objectivity and fairness.
- Identified problems accompanied by suggested means for resolution.
- Impact on the citizenry.
- Difficulty of the investigation.
- Media coverage.
- Agency acknowledgement.
- Changes resulting from the report.

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.

- Increased familiarity with and understanding of the grand jury system in general.
- Improved public understanding of the role played by the county grand jury in the specific investigation, i.e., what the grand jury discovered.
- Improved public understanding of the subject of the investigation.
- Community awareness of the outcome of the grand jury's work (i.e., what got better)

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.