

REPORT TO SHASTA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

SUBJECT		BOARD MEETING DATE	AGENDA NUMBER
PROCLAIM MARCH 2016 "GRAND JURY AWARENESS MONTH"		March 1, 2016	R 1
DEPARTMENT	SHASTA COUNTY GRAND JURY	Supervisorial District No. ALL	
DEPARTMENT CONTACT	Name Craig M. Perry	Title Grand Jury Foreperson	Phone Number 225-5098
4/5 Vote Required? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		General Fund Impact? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No General Fund Impact with the Recommended Action <input type="checkbox"/> No Additional General Fund Impact from the Recommended Action <input type="checkbox"/> General Fund Impact from the Recommended Action	

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors adopt a proclamation to declare the month of March 2016 as "Grand Jury Awareness Month" in Shasta County.

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION

California's Grand Jury system provides, in each county, a truly independent "watch dog" investigative body, composed of a number of citizens in each county, who monitor the performance and activities of the county, cities, schools, and special districts and their officers and elected officials.

The Shasta County Grand Jury works many hours each year to promote good government through its investigative authority. The Grand Jury's watchdog investigations are often initiated on the basis of citizen complaints, but the Grand Jury may also act on its own initiative. When warranted, the Grand Jury issues detailed reports of its findings, which include recommendations for improvements to local governments. In Shasta County, those reports are published in the Record Searchlight.

Grand Jury service offers unique rewards, including an enhanced understanding of local governments, a significant say in local government through the published reports of the Grand Jury's investigations, and a renewed faith in the power of dedicated citizens to make a difference.

The Shasta County Superior Court is now taking applications for the 2016/2017 Grand Jury. The qualities sought in individuals applying to serve on the Grand Jury include being a good listener; the willingness to cooperate with the other Grand Jurors in the pursuit of a common goal; and the ability to ask thoughtful questions, review documents, and help write lucid reports.

Candidates should have an interest in increasing the efficiency of local government and improving public services. Applications are available by calling the Superior Court at 245-6761 or visiting the Grand Jury's website at www.shastacountygrandjury.org.

BOARD REPORT

SUBJ: Proclaim March 2016 "Grand Jury Awareness Month"

DATE: March 1, 2016

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The Grand Jury requests that the Board adopt the proclamation declaring March 2016 as "Grand Jury Awareness Month" in Shasta County in order for all citizens to become better acquainted with the purposes of the Grand Jury, to draw attention to the Grand Jury's reports, and to encourage interested citizens to apply for membership on the Grand Jury.

ALTERNATIVES

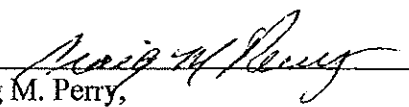
The Board could choose not to adopt the proclamation.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

Adoption of the proclamation is supported by the Shasta County Superior Court and the County Administrative Office. County Counsel prepared the proposed proclamation.

FINANCING

Adopting the proclamation will have no financial impact on the County.



Craig M. Perry,
Foreman of the 2016/2017 Grand Jury

Attachment:
Proclamation

Shasta County Board of Supervisors Proclamation

Grand Jury Awareness Month March 2016

WHEREAS, grand juries are crucial components of California's judicial system, serving three important roles: overseeing and reporting on the efficiency, honesty, and impartiality of local governments and elected officials; determining whether criminal acts have been committed and if there is enough evidence to charge a person with that crime; and determining whether to accuse public officials of impropriety; and

WHEREAS, every county in California has a grand jury made up of citizens, appointed by the county's Superior Court, who dedicate their time for a full year to grand jury service; and

WHEREAS, thanks to their commitment and hard work, grand jurors help ensure that local governments, such as counties, cities, special districts, and school districts, are operating legally and efficiently;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Shasta County Board of Supervisors hereby proclaims March 2016 as *Grand Jury Awareness Month* in Shasta County, recognizing the contributions of the Shasta County Grand Jury and encouraging citizens to apply for grand jury service by contacting the Shasta County Superior Court or accessing the Grand Jury's website.

Pam Giacomini, Chairman

March 3, 2016

Date