

Best Grand Jury Report				
Year	County	Subject	Why it Won	Year and Title of report and link
2021	Santa Clara	Valley Transportation Authority (VTA)	Described long-term problems at the VTA focusing on the board of directors. Received extensive media coverage and led to a legislative initiative.	2018-19 Inquiry into Governance of the Valley Transportation Authority https://www.scsccourt.org/court_divisions/civil/cgj/2019/CGJ%20VTA%20Final%20Report%20-%2006.18.19.pdf
2020	Marin	Wildfire preparedness	Led to creation of joint powers authority and funding to support it.	4/25/19 Wildfire Preparedness: A New Approach https://www.marincounty.org/depts/gj/reports-and-responses/reports-responses/2018-19/wildfire-preparedness-a-new-approach
2019	Alameda	City finances	Revealed the ramifications of the crisis and led to steps toward improvement.	June 2018 Oakland's \$860 Million Crisis: Unfunded Retiree Healthcare http://grandjury.acgov.org/grandjury-assets/docs/2017-2018/GJ-FinalReport-2017-2018.pdf
2019	Shasta	County finances	Report led to the correction of an error that would have cost the county more than \$260,000.	April 2016 The Quarter Million Dollar Typo: Words Matter https://www.co.shasta.ca.us/docs/libraries/grand-jury-docs/full-reports/2015-2016-full-report-and-responses.pdf?sfvrsn=cd78f889_0
2018	San Bernardino	School district police dept.	Revealed disproportionate towing of vehicles, neglect of other duties.	6/30/2017 Apple Valley Unified School District Police Department https://www.cgja.org/sites/default/files/2018_SB.pdf
2017	Lake	Emergency services	Reported on the disorganized coordination of emergency services in the midst of one of the largest disasters in California.	6/30/16 Role of the Office of Emergency Services in County Disaster Preparedness https://www.cgja.org/sites/default/files/2017_Lake.pdf
2016	Mendocino	County library	Examined the county's misclassification of library revenues and disbursement of library funds.	5/27/15 The Library https://www.cgja.org/sites/default/files/2016_Mendo1.pdf 6/9/14 The Mendocino County Free Library, How Is It Doing After Measure A? https://www.cgja.org/sites/default/files/2016_Mendo2.pdf
2015	Santa Cruz	Local water districts	Investigated and reported on desalination and other options available for addressing the current severe drought.	June 2014 Desalination and Alternatives: Water for a Thirsty County. https://www.cgja.org/sites/default/files/2015_SC.pdf
2014	San Francisco	City/county government technology system	Revealed the shortcomings of the operating technology and directly led to improvements in structure and management.	6/1/12 Deja Vu All Over Again: San Francisco's City Technology Needs a Culture Shock https://www.cgja.org/sites/default/files/2014_SF.pdf

2013	San Luis Obispo	Sanitation District	Special district director's conflict of interest and the failure of oversight by the board, led to changes on the board and director's resignation	2010-11 The South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District https://www.cgja.org/sites/default/files/2013_SLO.pdf
2012	Sacramento	County Library	Misappropriation of funds, conflicts of interest in the award of contracts, and other serious acts of administrative malfeasance	2007-08 Sacramento Public Library Authority: The Business of Books https://www.cgja.org/sites/default/files/2012_Sacto.pdf
2011	Yuba	Auditor-Controller	Official described as incompetent forced to resign	Financial Hard Times in Yuba County https://www.cgja.org/sites/default/files/2011_Yuba.pdf
°2010	Marin	Indigent defendants not represented at preliminary hearing	Investigated and obtained resolution of a practice which compromised the right of equal justice for all citizens at their arraignment hearing.	2005-06 Defenseless at Arraignment: Lady Justice Lagging in Marin https://www.cgja.org/sites/default/files/2010_Marin.pdf
°2009	Mendocino	Senior Center mismanaged	Executive Director resigned and services greatly improved	2008-09 "Nobody (is) Was Listening: The Redwood Coast Senior Center https://www.cgja.org/sites/default/files/2009_Mendo.pdf
j2008	Napa	Farm worker housing	Reported on cost overruns, lack of oversight and the involved/responsible entities	2007-08 Renovation of Farmworker Housing Centers by the Napa Valley Housing Authority: A Case Study in the Failure of Governmental Stewardship https://www.cgja.org/sites/default/files/2008_Napa.pdf
j2007	Kern	Mandatory curbside recycling	It was well written and technically complete.	2006-07 Kern County Waste Management Department and City of Bakersfield Department of Public Works, Solid Waste and Recycling Division https://www.cgja.org/sites/default/files/2007_Kern.pdf
j2006	Placer	Earl Heal and Sherry Chesny	Sherry accepted the Excellence in Reporting award on behalf of Placer County Grand Jury.	
j2006	Butte	Public school student fees	Special achievement in investigating and obtaining resolution of public school policies regarding assessment and collection of fees from students and control and disbursement of education funds. Bookkeeping of accounts was highly deficient.	2004-5 High Price of Public Education in Butte County https://www.cgja.org/sites/default/files/2006_Butte1.pdf 2005-6 Chico Unified School District: Associated Student Body Funds https://www.cgja.org/sites/default/files/2006_Butte2.pdf
2005	Nevada			
j2004	Solano	Certificate of Merit: 2001/02, 2002/03, and 2003/04 Grand Juries. Solano County Water Agency's inadequate provision of flood control along Sweeney Creek.		
j2004	Madera	Collection of Court Fees	Bringing to light the \$5-20 million in uncollected court fees. (Citation gives	2003 Uncollected Madera County Court Fees (This report no longer on Madera Grand Jury website)

	Certificate of Merit		CGJA credit for breaking through Court's position that GJ could not investigate the court.)	
j2004	Ventura	Certificate of Merit:	Informative and broad-ranging newspaper insert of 1/12/04 on the varied grand jury experience.	Joint award to the 2003/04 Grand Jury and to the <i>Ventura Star</i> – report unavailable
j2004	Lake	Certificate of Merit	Extensive newspaper article on the history and function of grand juries, published on 3/31/04.	2003-04 Grand Jury – report not available
j2002	Orange County			1999 report unavailable
j2001	Monterey			
j2001	Placer			

Best Grand Jury Media Coverage			
Year	County	Recipient	Why it Won
2021	San Luis Obispo	<i>New Times</i> , San Luis Obispo	for the in-depth description and broad distribution of its news coverage of the 2019-20 San Luis Obispo County Grand Jury report, <i>Paso Robles School District: A Cautionary Tale</i> . The report addressed long-term and ongoing financial problems of the Paso Robles Joint Unified School District.
2020	Tuolumne	Alex MacLean, reporter for <i>The Union Democrat</i>	for coverage (at least 26 articles) of “Consolidated 2017-18 Tuolumne County Grand Jury Report: Tuolumne County Economic Development Authority”
2019	Shasta	<i>Record Searchlight</i> (Redding)	for its coverage of the 2015-16 Shasta County Grand Jury report “The Quarter Million Dollar Typo: Words Matter”
2017	Alameda	<i>East Bay Express</i>	for its rigorous coverage of the Alameda County Civil Grand Jury reports in 2016. The paper clearly analyzed Grand Jury reports and regularly informed the public of their relevance to governmental issues.
2016	Marin	<i>Independent Journal</i>	for its news coverage of the Marin County Civil Grand Jury over the past three years.
2015	Santa Barbara	<i>Lompoc Record</i>	for coverage of the 2011-12 Santa Barbara County Grand Jury report, “A Failure of Oversight: Lompoc Housing and Community Development Corporation.”
2014	San Joaquin	Jennie Rodriguez-Moore, <i>The Record</i>	Publicized and followed up Grand Jury report exposing the failure of oversight of group homes for youth.
2013	Sutter	Nancy Pasternak, Appeal Democrat	for coverage of the 2010-11 Sutter County report “Sutter County Animal Control Shelter”
2012	Sacramento	<i>Sacramento Bee</i>	for coverage of the 2008-09 Sacramento County report “Sacramento Public Library Authority: The Business of Books”
2011	Alameda	<i>Oakland Local</i> , a web-based independent media outlet	for coverage of 2010-2011 Alameda County report, “City of Oakland Building Services Division.”
2010	San Francisco	<i>San Francisco Chronicle</i>	for its strong and continued support of the San Francisco County Grand Jury. The <i>Chronicle</i> staff provided detailed and concerned coverage of the San Francisco Grand Jury report issued in June, 2009 entitled “Pensions, Beyond Our Ability to Pay,” As a consequence of the public awareness engendered by this reporting, Proposition B has been placed on the ballot for the November 2, 2010 election.
2009	Mendocino	<i>2009 The Mendocino Beacon/Fort Bragg Advocate News</i>	for its strong and continuing support of the Mendocino County Grand Jury
2008	Napa	<i>Napa Valley Register</i>	for reporting consistently and accurately on the Napa County Grand Jury reports

2007			
j2006	San Luis Obispo	<i>Tribune of San Luis Obispo</i>	for its strong and continuing support of the County Grand Jury
2005	Marin	<i>Marin Independent Journal</i>	for consistent, diligent reporting of County Grand Jury investigative reports
j2004	Solano	Certificate of Appreciation: The <i>Vacaville Reporter</i>	for its interest in and articles on the causes and impact of the recurrent Sweeney Creek flooding
j2004	Madera	Certificate of Appreciation: The <i>Merced Tribune</i>	for its articles on the Grand Jury's investigation into the court fees and the officials' responses.
j2004	Ventura	Certificate of Merit: Joint award to the 2003/04 Ventura County Grand Jury and to the <i>Ventura Star</i>	for their informative and broad-ranging newspaper insert of 1/12/04 on the varied grand jury experience.
j2004	Lake	Certificate of Appreciation: The <i>Lake County Record-Bee</i>	for working closely with the Grand Jury to display their article in an eye-catching feature.
j2002	Contra Costa	<i>Contra Costa Times.</i>	
j2001	Sacramento	<i>Sacramento Bee</i>	

^cbased on citation

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