Recent Special Recognition Awards

Rob Warren (1968-2021) - in recognition of his strong support of the mission of civil grand juries to ensure that civic agencies worked in the best interests of the public. During his tenure the Alameda County Civil Grand Jury issued 86 reports one of which received CGJA's Excellence in Reporting Award in 2019. Rob successfully encouraged former jurors to establish the Alameda County Civil grand Jury Association. It was formed in 2016 as an affiliate chapter of CGJA. His tireless efforts to promote good governance in Alameda County will be missed.

2022 Marge Ansel – in recognition of her multiple terms on the Glenn County Grand Jury, twice as Foreperson. She assisted in updating the Grand Jury's Procedures Manual. In addition to her grand jury service Marge has a long history serving the County in a variety of ways. Marge helped organize the Glenn County Alumni Association Chapter including securing its 501(c)3 status.

2022 Shirley Boracci – in recognition of her multiple terms on the Glenn County Grand Jury, once as Foreperson and currently as Secretary. Along with a fellow juror Shirley took on the task of updating and correcting the Glenn County Procedures Manual, which was approved by County Counsel, printed and distributed. Shirley organized the Glenn County Alumni Association Chapter and currently serves as its President. She is currently serving as a CGJA Director for the Northern Region and serves on numerous CGJA Committees.

2019 Doug Gillen – in recognition of his exemplary work improving recruitment efforts for the Orange County grand jury. He was a member of them 2016-17 and 2018-19 Orange County Grand Jury. Mr. Gillen developed, drafted and designed a tri-fold brochure with basic and practical information about the grand jury. This brochure was approved by the presiding Judge and is available in the petit jury meeting room.

2019 Dianne Hoffman – in recognition for the valuable contributions she has made to CGJA for the past 12 years. She is a former Director, former Assistant Treasurer, former Treasurer, current Membership Database Manager, and a recently retired long-time grand jury trainer. Dianne serves on the Finance Committee, Legal & Legislative Resource Committee, Membership Relations Committee, Public Relations Committee, and the Training Finance Subcommittee.

2019 Judi Lazenby – in recognition of her exemplary service in support of the grand jury system. Judi was a Director for 6 years and skillfully served as president from 2006 to 2008. Judi also served as Treasurer for 2 years and was a CGJA trainer for 14 years. She is currently a member of the Program Administration Subcommittee. Judi also contributes many hours to her local CGJA Chapter in Santa Cruz County. Neither organization would be where it is today without her contributions.

2019 Andi Winters – in recognition of her exemplary service in support of the grand jury system. Andi served 3 terms as a CGJA Director and ably led the Association as its President from 2016 to 2018. Andi is a past member of the San Francisco chapter and of the El Dorado County Grand Jurors' Association. She has been a tireless lead volunteer for CGJA's regional training seminars, helped assemble and transport hundreds of training manuals to the venues, was a member of the Program Administration Subcommittee and serves on the Annual Conference Committee.

2018 Leslie Lea – in recognition of her exemplary service in support of the grand jury system, the CGJA, the Contra Costa chapter of the CGJA and her role as the travel agent for the CGJA Training Committee.

2018 2016-2017 Contra Costa Grand Jury – in recognition of their hard work and tenacity in discovering and exposing the misuse of campaign funds of an elected official. As a result of the filing of an accusation, the District Attorney pleaded no-contest to one count of perjury and his license to practice law was revoked by the California Supreme Court.

2015 Betty J, Mattea and Owen Haxton - awarded a certificate of appreciation in recognition of their concept to create an entity that would allow local CGJA Chapters to band together to discuss and solve mutual issues in the confines of their local geography. They proposed the idea to Dan Mufson who created what we know today as Regional meetings.

2015 Dan Mufson - Under Dan's leadership, the Membership Relations Committee initiated Regionals. The intent is to encourage local chapters to meet with other Chapters in the same geographical area to discuss mutual issues and solutions. Although supported by the CGJA, the meetings are planned and hosted at the local level.

2013 Dan Walters (Sacramento Bee) - at the Sacramento Union, and later the Bee, watching over it all, and through more than 7500 columns appearing in more than 50 California newspapers, posing the question for his readers, "who is doing what to whom in Sacramento and around the state."

2013 Bonnie Kenk (San Diego) - developed and maintained the CGJA comprehensive member database and the IM (Introductory Members) Program database, along with forwarding the journal responding to new members' questions.

She also handled annual conference registration and distribution of director election ballots.

2013 Karen Jahr (Shasta) - lead trainer in Grand Jury Law and Legal Topics, Chair of the Training Curriculum Subcommittee, updated presentations and the 2013 Training Manual, member of the Board of Directors and Chair of its Legal & Legislative Resources Committee.

2012 Beate Boultinghouse (San Francisco) - for her support of the Bay Area regional chapter meetings (Recognized again in 2015).

2012 Dianne Damé Shepp (Napa) - for chairing two consecutive Annual Conferences in Napa, both on relatively short notice.

2011 Jerry Jaggers (Sacramento) - for his invaluable assistance in opposing AB 622 (a legislative bill unfriendly to the grand jury)

2011 Dan Mufson - for his efforts in building the membership and adding several new chapters.