**INTERVIEW QUESTIONS**

**GRAND JURY APPLICANTS**

The court is required to appoint to the grand jury persons who, in the opinion of the judges, are “suitable and competent to serve as grand jurors” (PC §903.2, §903.3).

**GOALS (quoting PC §893):**

* **To determine if the applicant has specific skills: research, interviewing, writing, and/or editing (in other words, has “sufficient knowledge of the English language” to contribute to the Grand Jury’s investigation/reporting process).**
* **To determine if the applicant can work collaboratively with others (has “sound judgement” and “fair character”).**
* **To determine if the applicant has a bias in favor of or against government and/or government officials (possesses a “fair character”).**

The following eight questions are aimed at assisting the judges in making that determination:

*(NOTE: If the answer to any of the initial questions 2 through 7 is negative, move on to the next numbered question.)*

1. How did you learn about applying for grand jury service? (i.e., newspaper ad or article, website, banner, friend or relative, or other)?
2. Have you ever read a grand jury report (published as an insert to the *Record Searchlight*or available on the grand jury’s website)? What effect, if any, do you think grand jury reports have on local government?
3. Do you have any particular concerns that you would like the grand jury to look into if you are selected as a grand juror? Describe. Why do you have those concerns? What do you hope or expect that an investigation would accomplish?
4. Have you ever had any bad experiences with a government entity or department? Explain.
5. Have you ever conducted research or written a report either as part of your employment or for personal reasons (such as genealogy)? Describe—including frequency, topics, reasons for conducting the research, etc.) Did you enjoy it? How effective were you in getting the information you sought?
6. Have you ever conducted an interview, either by yourself or with others? Describe. Were you comfortable doing that? Did you uncover important and/or new information?
7. Describe your experience working in a group. Give us an example of how you influenced the group to change the way it did things or to adopt your point of view on a particular matter.
8. What are your thoughts about being able to devote the time it takes for grand jurors to handle their responsibilities—including meetings, committee work, research, interviews, report writing and editing, etc.?

(10–20+ hours a week, depending on the time of year)

1. Why do you feel you should be chosen to be a member of the grand jury?
2. Are there any questions you would like to ask us?

**Closing information:**

1. Once the interview process is completed, applications and information from this interview go to the judges who make the final determination about who will be included in the 2015–2016 pool of grand juror candidates.
2. At that time you will receive a letter from the court informing you whether or not you have been chosen for the pool. **That letter will include the pertinent information about the impanelment day and time (Tues., June 23) and the orientation and training meetings to follow impanelment.**
3. If you are chosen for the pool, I will call you to ask you whether you would like to attend the morning or the afternoon session of the ***pre-orientation meeting*** to be held on Wednesday, June 10.

NOTE: **Each candidate is handed a flyer** **with information on the pre-orientation.**