



Grand Jurors' Journal

Vol. 25, No. 1, February 2024



GRAND JURY AWARENESS MONTH 2024

During his term as Governor of California, Arnold Schwarzenegger proclaimed each February as Grand Jury Awareness Month. Some California counties regularly recognize grand jury service in February, and some choose to do this in March.

As many counties have not been recognizing this honorable and voluntary service, this year the CGJA Public Relations committee reached out to each county – through the chapters or by directly contacting court executive offices where there are no CGJA chapters. They were offered a template proclamation to share with their Board of Supervisors.

If your county makes a proclamation – please send us ([Juliana Jones](#)) pictures and any press coverage.

Multichapter Meeting highlights

The January multichapter meeting held on zoom was lively and informative. Thirty-nine people representing twenty-four counties and CGJA officers participated.



Following brief introductory comments from Jim Glover (Membership and Chapter Relations Committee) and Gary Cooper, newly appointed CGJA President, Juliana Jones (Public Relations Committee) described the current media situation and requested that chapters participate in actively keeping up media contacts in their areas. [Meeting highlights here.](#)

Serving the Civil Grand Jury

by Joann Landi, Chair, Awards Committee

In addition to civil grand jury service, CGJA chapter or independent association involvement, there are many people who do a lot for the grand jury who are not members of the CGJA. Examples are civic minded city council members, county officials, legislators, judges, and others.

Their value should be recognized and rewarded. You can do so by nominating them for a ***Certificate of Special Recognition*** from the CGJA. [***Nomination details.***](#)



As you're receiving the *Journal*, you get to know about all that's happening in our world. However, friends or colleagues who are members or serving jurors who may have received the *Journal* in the past might have mistakenly unsubscribed.

If they'd like to resubscribe, please direct them to this [***form***](#), and we'll be able to send it out!

Thanks!

Mark Your Calendars!

by Lloyd Bell, Chair, Annual Conference Committee

Planning has begun for the **CGJA Annual Conference and Membership Meeting**, to be held **October 20-21, 2024**, at the **Embassy Suites in Monterey, California**. This is the premier event at CGJA where we reconnect with old friends and acquaintances over dinner, cocktail time, and during breaks, while gathering new ideas and new friends along the way. [***Read more.***](#)

Ask the Trainers by the Training Committee Co-chairs



Marsha Caranci

This regular column allows the CGJA training team to share with Journal readers our responses to questions we receive from grand jurors. Please remember: Do not take any responses as legal advice, and contact your local legal advisors to answer any question that might divulge confidential information.

Please submit your questions to us at cgjatraining@cgja.org. Our response to your edited or redacted question might appear in a future edition of the Journal.



Richard Rogers

- We're running short on time. What are CGJA's best practice recommendations regarding remote interviews on Zoom or Google Meet?
- We have a quick follow-up question for an interviewee we met several weeks ago. Can a single juror take the initiative or be assigned to get the answer on their own? Does the admonition the interviewee signed earlier still apply?
- Can a single juror contact outsiders to get general information about an entity under investigation if they don't reveal they are a juror?

[Read the answers here.](#)

Foreperson Roundtable Discussion February 15

CGJA's inaugural foreperson roundtable sessions held in 2023 were very popular so we are holding them again in 2024. The first one took place on January 22 and was well attended.

The next session will be on **Thursday, February 15, from 1:00 until 3:00 pm.** [Read more.](#)



factoids
from
the
member
database

Did you know that CGJA's members come from 49 of the 58 counties in California! That's quite an impressive spread of members throughout the state.*

This issue's question is: **Which county has the most members?** Let the [editor](#) know and you'll be recognized in the next issue!

* Courtesy of Michael Hofman, CGJA Database Manager



THANK YOU!

We received \$867 from the following individuals who donated to CGJA at the time they registered for the 2023 Annual Conference.



**Lloyd Bell
Janeko Bower
Marsha Caranci
Charles Cerjan**

**Travis Gibbons
Karen Jahr
Joann Landi
Jerry Lewi**

**Carina Lister
Diane Lloyd
Dr. Parveen Sharma
Nancy Welts**

We also thank those individuals and chapters who contributed silent auction items.

**Alameda County Chapter
Lloyd Bell
Janet Clark
Contra Costa Chapter**

**Anne Granlund
Roxy Montana
Lou Panetta**

**Monterey County Chapter
Juliana Olinka-Jones
Dave Singh**

and our generous members who bid on them. This fun event raised an amazing \$2,205 – to be used to offset registration fees for our 2024 Annual Conference in Monterey.

News from Around the State

from Marin County **Civil Grand Jury Selection by Janeko Bower**

Superior Court Judge Chou drew names for the 2023-24 Marin County Civil Grand Jury on the Civic Center Patio in June 2023. All were congratulated by Judge Talamantes and the upcoming foreperson. Both jurors and alternates were immediately sworn in by Judge Chou. This jury has three juror holdovers for their second term.



new MEMBERS

County	Name
Marin	Patrice Shepherd – <i>Lifetime member</i>
Calaveras	Victoria Plaugher
Madera	Mark Swan
Napa	Timothy Wilkins
Solano	Sandra Stevens
Ventura	Barbara Rush

Recent Board Actions – [Click here.](#)

Keep us Posted

Format articles in Word and send as email attachments to Barbara Sommer, editor@cgja.org. For more details see [How to submit an article](#).

DEADLINE for submitting articles for publication in the next issue.

March 25, 2024

Change of address – Please notify the editor@cgja.org of any email address changes.

[Join/Renew your membership](#)

Serve on a committee - see the [committee descriptions](#).

The mission of the CGJA is to promote, preserve, and support the grand jury system through training, education, and outreach.

Contacts: [Officers and directors](#), chapter and association [presidents](#).

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