



**Superior Court of California
County of Orange**

NEWS RELEASE

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**Orange County Superior Court Urgently Seeks Applicants
To Serve on The Grand Jury**

Santa Ana, CA - If you would like to make a difference by performing an oversight function into the operation of county government, the January 13, 2006 deadline for applications to serve on the Orange County Grand Jury is quickly approaching. Citizens who are interested in serving should submit their application to the Orange County Superior Court immediately.

The work of the grand jury is important and has a significant impact on the lives of Orange County residents. The 2005-2006 Grand Jury's most recent report, "Real Property: Is Your Home Safe From Property Fraud?" made several recommendations that the Orange County Assessor and Clerk-Recorder's can implement to prevent the growing crime of real property fraud. Other reports have focused on timely issues such as improving security at John Wayne airport, what local law enforcement can do to address the problem of identity theft, and improvements that were needed at the Orange County Animal Shelter. These are just a few examples of the many investigations and reports prepared by the Grand Jury each year.

Applications may be obtained by calling the Grand Jury Hotline at (714) 834-6747 or at the Jury Commissioner's Office located in the Central Justice Center, 700 Civic Center Drive, West Santa Ana, California between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday or through the Internet at www.ocgrandjury.org.

The Grand Jury is composed of 19 individuals whose names are selected by random drawing from those applicants nominated by the judges of the Superior Court. The Grand Jury serves for a one-year period, beginning July 3, 2006, and are empowered to investigate the operations of county government. They also consider evidence for possible indictment of persons of criminal felonies.

A grand juror must be 18 years of age or older, a United States Citizen, and have resided in Orange County for at least one year. Prior to being nominated, each qualifying applicant is interviewed by a Superior Court judge and background investigations including record checks of state and local law enforcement agencies are conducted by the Orange County Sheriff.

An orientation program to inform prospective grand jurors of the time and commitment involved in Grand Jury Service will be held Thursday, January 26, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. in Department C-1, 2nd Floor, Central Justice Center, 700 Civic Center Drive West, Santa Ana. All applicants are required to attend this orientation program.

For further information, call (714) 834-6747.