



Superior Court of California
County of Orange

NEWS RELEASE

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**Applications to Serve on the 2008-2009 Orange County Grand Jury
Must be Submitted by January 11, 2008**

Santa Ana, CA – The number of Orange County residents seeking to serve on the 2008-2009 Grand Jury is significantly lower than previous years. Only 79 applications have been received and just eight days remain until the close of the application period.

The work of the Grand Jury has an important impact on the lives of Orange County residents. Grand Jurors review and evaluate government agencies, schools, and special districts within Orange County. Past reports have focused on timely issues such as improving security at John Wayne Airport, the welfare of Orange County's foster children, and disaster planning for Orange County schools. The 19-member Grand Jury also considers evidence for felony criminal indictments.

If you would like to make a difference by serving on the Orange County Grand Jury, 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 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 a random drawing from applicants nominated by the judges of the Superior Court. The 2008-2009 Grand Jury serves for a one-year period, beginning July 1, 2008. Compensation for service is \$50 per day. 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's Department.

An orientation program to inform prospective grand jurors of the time and commitment involved in Grand Jury service will be held January 22, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. in Department C-1, Central Justice Center, 700 Civic Center Drive West, Santa Ana.