



MEMORANDUM
Board of Supervisors
County of Placer

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Teri Ivaldi, Chief of Staff
SUBJECT: Proclamation – February 2018 Grand Jury Awareness Month.

ACTION REQUESTED

Present a proclamation designating February 2018 as Grand Jury Awareness Month in Placer County.

BACKGROUND

Every year in each of California's fifty-eight counties, nineteen ordinary citizens take an oath to voluntarily serve a term of one year as grand jurors. Grand juries have been in existence since the adoption of California's original Constitution in 1849-1850.

Grand juries are impaneled to act as an "arm of the court," to be the voice of the people and a conscience of the community. Grand juries conduct their investigations under the auspices of the Superior Court of California and have broad access to public officials, employees, records and information. Grand juries are charged with investigating and reporting on local governmental operations to assure that their responsibilities are being fulfilled legally, efficiently, honestly and in the best interest of the public. Grand juries serve as a watchdog authority and are well suited to the effective investigation of local governments because they are independent bodies, operationally separate from the entities and officials they investigate.

The grand jury's fact-finding efforts result in reports that contain specific recommendations aimed at identifying problems and offering ways to improve government operations and enhance responsiveness. It is appropriate to recognize the efforts of those jurors, both past and present who have volunteered their time and service to the Placer County Grand Jury.

FISCAL IMPACT

None

Proclamation

IN THE MATTER OF A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING FEBRUARY 2018, AS GRAND JURY AWARENESS MONTH IN PLACER COUNTY

WHEREAS, every year in each of California's fifty-eight counties, nineteen ordinary citizens take an oath to voluntarily serve a term of one year as grand jurors; and

WHEREAS, grand juries have been in existence since the adoption of California's original Constitution in 1849-1850; and

WHEREAS, grand juries conduct their investigations under the auspices of the Superior Court of California and have broad access to public officials, employees, records and information. One of the most important functions of a grand jury is to review the operations of the officers, departments and agencies of local government; and

WHEREAS, grand juries are charged with investigating and reporting on local governmental operations to assure that their responsibilities are being fulfilled legally, efficiently, honestly and in the best interest of the public. Grand juries serve as a watchdog authority and are well suited to the effective investigation of local governments because they are independent bodies, operationally separate from the entities and officials they investigate; and

WHEREAS, the grand jury's fact-finding efforts result in reports that identify specific problems and offer specific recommendations aimed at improving government operations and enhancing responsiveness; and

WHEREAS, the hard work done by grand juries has a great effect on our communities and makes California a better place to live; and

WHEREAS, the reward of being a grand juror is the satisfaction received from working with fellow residents and community members to improve local government for all; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize the efforts of those jurors, both past and present who have volunteered their time and service to the Placer County Grand Jury.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the above PROCLAMATION was duly passed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer, on behalf of the citizens of Placer County, at a regular meeting held, February 6, 2018, proclaiming the month of February 2018 as Grand Jury Awareness Month.

Jim Holmes
Chair 2018, Supervisor District 3

JACK DURAN
Supervisor
District 1

ROBERT M. WEYGANDT
Supervisor
District 2

JIM HOLMES
Supervisor
District 3

KIRK UHLER
Supervisor
District 4

JENNIFER MONTGOMERY
Supervisor
District 5