

To Join Us

You must be:

- 18 or older, a United States citizen, and resident of Mendocino County for at least one year
- Interested in investigating the performance of local government agencies
- Enthusiastic about the opportunity to recommend solutions to improve governance and services
- A good listener who can ask thoughtful questions
- Ready to commit a minimum of 10+ hours per week for 1 year
- Willing to ensure your investigations remain confidential
- Prepared to cooperate with 18 others to achieve a common goal
- Able to use a computer, email and MS office applications
- Proficient in conducting on-line research

Historical Roots

The grand jury system has been used in England since the twelfth century. Grand juries were brought to America in 1635 when the Massachusetts Bay Colony empaneled the first grand jury in the new land.

The grand jury system has been enshrined in the California Constitution since the beginning of statehood in 1850. The Mendocino County Civil Grand Jury operates under this constitutional mandate, which calls for a grand jury in every county.

Apply Today

Serving on the Mendocino County Civil Grand Jury is a rewarding experience. Don't miss out!

Applications may be downloaded at:



<https://www.mendocinocounty.gov/government/grand-jury>

Or by contacting:

Mendocino County Civil Grand Jury
P.O. Box 939 Ukiah, CA 95482
707.463.4320

Share Your Knowledge.
Improve Our Community.

Volunteer

for the



CIVIL GRAND JURY

"A Rewarding Experience"



Revised April 24, 2024

WHAT WE DO

Mendocino's Civil Grand Jury is the County's only independent watchdog of government agencies and services. Composed of 19 citizen volunteers, it investigates and monitors the performance of county, city, and local governing entities, including special districts. It has the responsibility to make recommendations to improve local government.

The Civil Grand Jury speaks as one voice for the residents of Mendocino County.

Empowered by the California Constitution, the Civil Grand Jury is independent of administrators, politicians, and legislators.

Grand jury service is a volunteer position with modest monthly compensation for meetings and round-trip mileage. What it doesn't offer in pay, it offers in a wealth of experience.



THE PROCESS

Applications are accepted from all qualified citizens, reviewed by the Presiding Judge of the Civil Grand Jury, and a drawing is held to pick 19 jurors. Those not selected are placed in a pool of alternates.

Jurors serve a one-year term beginning July 1st. Serving jurors are provided with comprehensive training on grand jury responsibilities, investigation techniques and report writing.

Investigations: The Grand Jury investigates all matters ranging from inefficiencies in local government to misconduct in office by public officials. Anyone may submit a complaint by either completing a Grand Jury complaint form or by writing a letter to the Grand Jury. Complaints are treated as confidential.

Reports: A public report usually follows an investigation with recommendations that are publicly addressed by the recipients. To see reports issued by the Mendocino County Civil Grand Jury visit the jury's website.



[https://
www.mendocinocounty.gov/
government/grand-jury/past-
reports](https://www.mendocinocounty.gov/government/grand-jury/past-reports)

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

- Monitor the performance of county, city, special districts, and other governing entities.
- Tour and observe juvenile hall, Mendocino County jail and the conservation camps.
- Verify that tax dollars are spent wisely.
- Recommend ways to enhance local government operations and services.
- Improve governance in Mendocino County.



GRAND JURY RESOURCES

- Presiding Judge of the Civil Grand Jury
- Office of the County Counsel
- California Civil Grand Jurors Assn.
 - A nonprofit group of former grand jurors with local chapters across the State of California