



Superior Court of California
County of Mendocino
100 N. State St., Ukiah, CA 95482
www.mendocino.courts.ca.gov/

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

March 27, 2025

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS RECOGNIZES THE WORK OF THE CIVIL GRAND JURY

On Tuesday, the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors acknowledged the important work of the Civil Grand Jury by issuing a Proclamation Recognizing March 2025 as Civil Grand Jury Awareness Month. Most of the members of the current Civil Grand Jury and Judge Ann Moorman were in attendance at the Board meeting. Judge Moorman is responsible for impaneling, supervising and providing guidance, to the Grand Jury.



Civil grand juries are included in the California Constitution and have been in existence since California became a state in 1849. They perform a vital function in a democracy. They review the operation of local government, including the County, cities, school districts and special districts. They perform investigations of local government programs, and they make recommendations to those agencies on their findings with a goal of improving government operations and making government more responsive to the communities they serve. Each year the court solicits volunteers for a new civil grand jury. Jurors are impaneled to serve a one-year term, beginning July 1st of each year.

Mary Litem Thomas, current foreperson of the Civil Grand Jury, spoke about the important role it serves in the community. She stated that the Civil Grand Jury's charge is "to provide oversight, mainly for the taxpayers and how their money is spent but [also] to work for the betterment of this county." She added that the proclamation and Board recognition will help recruit members of the public to join the Grand Jury. "It's a noble effort. We work tirelessly." She noted that an added benefit is that grand jurors form friendships that outlast their tenure on the Grand Jury. "We build bonds and excitement in all the interests and investigations we do."

Board Chair John Haschak thanked the Civil Grand Jury for promoting "transparency, accountability and efficiency in the County and all the other governmental agencies in Mendocino County."

Mendocino County residents interested in joining the Civil Grand Jury for the 2025-26 term are invited to complete an application at [Grand Jury \(ca.gov\)](https://www.court.ca.gov) on the court's website. Applicants must be US citizens, at least 18 years old, reside in Mendocino County, and be fluent in English to communicate both orally and in writing.

For more information contact:

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(707) 463-4664, then select Administration from the phone menu

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