

DUTIES OF THE CIVIL GRAND JURY

Civil Grand Jurors serve a one (1) year term from July 1st through June 30th. The jury panel consists of nineteen (19) persons who are assigned to various committees plus three (3) alternates. It is understood that Civil Grand Jurors may be absent for reasonable periods for vacations. During your term as a Civil Grand Juror you would be excused from trial jury service in the State Courts.

The Civil Grand Jury is a time-honored component of our Anglo-American legal system. Civil Grand Jurors are selected citizens of the county who are expected to exercise sound judgment in reviewing and commenting upon the actions of governmental agencies.

Essentially, the Civil Grand Jury operates as an investigative agency performing a two-fold function. First, the Civil Grand Jury has powers and duties with respect to the oversight of public offices, officers, and transactions. Designated State and all County and special District agencies that serve Tulare County are routinely reviewed and critiqued by the Civil Grand Jury in its annual and interim reports.

Secondly, the Civil Grand Jury has powers and duties with respect to inquiry into possible public offenses, misconduct in office by public officers and determining whether to return indictments charging the commission of felonies.

The 2011-2012 Tulare County Civil Grand Jury selection process will be conducted May - June 2011. The process involves completing this questionnaire and being interviewed by the designee of the Presiding Judge of the Tulare County Superior Courts. After selection, the designee of the Presiding Judge will further instruct jurors of their duties. Throughout its term, the Civil Grand Jury may request advice on legal matters from the District Attorney and County Counsel.

2011 – 2012

TULARE COUNTY CIVIL GRAND JURY QUESTIONNAIRE

Pursuant to California Penal Code section 893, the following questions must be answered:

STATUTORY QUALIFICATIONS: (Place a check in the appropriate box)

- | | | |
|----|-----|---|
| No | Yes | Are you a citizen of the United States? |
| No | Yes | Are you eighteen years of age or older? |
| No | Yes | Have been a resident of Tulare County for at least one year prior to the date of this application? |
| No | Yes | Are you in possession of your natural faculties? Are you of ordinary intelligence and of sound judgment and fair character? |
| No | Yes | Do you possess a sufficient knowledge of the English language? |

STATUTORY DISQUALIFICATIONS: (Place a check in the appropriate box):

- | | | |
|----|-----|--|
| No | Yes | Are you serving as a trial juror in any court of this State? If Yes, County _____ |
| No | Yes | Have you been discharged as a grand juror in any court of this State within one year prior to the date of this application? If Yes, County _____ |
| No | Yes | Have you ever been convicted of malfeasance in office or any felony or other high crime? |
| No | Yes | Are you currently serving as an elected public official? |

- Check one: () I am interested in serving on the Tulare County Civil Grand Jury for the fiscal year **2011-2012** and I understand the time commitment required
- () I am unable to serve on the Grand Jury in **2011-2012**
- () I am unavailable at this time, but would like to be considered for term **2012~2013**

If you answered **NO** to any **STATUTORY QUALIFICATIONS** or you answered **YES** to any **STATUTORY DISQUALIFICATIONS**, you do not qualify. There is no need to continue or to return the questionnaire.

IF QUALIFIED, please continue and complete the questionnaire, returning it in the pre-paid envelope provided.

CALIFORNIA RULES OF COURT, Rule 10.625, regarding certain demographic data relating to regular grand jurors.
{Please check the appropriate box to the following}

(A) Age range, please check the appropriate box: 18-25 26-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74

75 and over (B) Gender: Male Female

(C) Please indicate your ethnic origin by circling one of the following (may select more than one):

American Indian or Alaska Native Asian Black or African American Hispanic/Latino
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander White Other (please specify) _____

Decline to Answer

Place of Residence by Supervisorial District: District 1 District 2 District 3 District 4 District 5

THIS QUESTIONNAIRE IS TO ASSIST THE JUDGES OF THE SUPERIOR COURT IN COMPLETING A LIST OF NOMINEES WHICH FAIRLY REPRESENTS A CROSS-SECTION OF OUR COMMUNITY. SOME OF THE QUESTIONS THAT MAY SEEM PERSONAL ARE NECESSARY IN ORDER TO ASSURE THE JUDGES THAT THE GROUP THEY NOMINATE, FROM WHICH THE FINAL NAMES WILL BE DRAWN, REPRESENTS VARIOUS AGE GROUPS, ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND ETHNIC BACKGROUNDS.

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

1. Full Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____
(First) (Middle) (Last)

2. Address (Phys.): _____ City: _____ Zip +4: _____

Address (Mail): _____ City: _____ Zip +4: _____

Residence Phone: () _____ Business Phone: () _____

Cell Phone: () _____ Fax Number: () _____

Email Address: _____

3. Occupation: _____

Employer: _____

If retired, previous occupation _____

4. Can you afford the time required to be a Civil Grand Juror (approximately 20 hours per week)? _____

If not, briefly state why not: _____

5. Do you have any physical or mental condition which would interfere with your ability to function as a Civil Grand

Juror? _____ If yes, explain briefly _____

What accommodations would the Court need to provide to accommodate your physical or mental impairment?

6. Education (Circle highest grade completed):

6 (or less) 7 8 9 10 11 12 College: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Name of schools attended and degrees or certification attained: _____

7. Clubs or organizations: List any civic, service organizations or any volunteer work to which you belong.

8. Spouse / Domestic Partner Name: _____

Occupation: _____

If retired, list previous occupation you retired from _____

Employer: _____

9. Are you or any immediate family member an appointed or elected public officer of any public agency? _____

If yes, explain: _____

10. Are you currently involved in any litigation (law suits) in this county? _____

11. Are you or any of your immediate family members employed by the County of Tulare or any school district within the county? _____
If yes, where? _____
12. Do you have any significant problems reading or understanding the English Language? _____
13. Do you have any suggestions, comments or other matters you would like to bring to the judges attention in connection with your application? _____
14. Please tell us about any special skills or abilities that you have which the judges should know about in considering your application? _____

15. Please tell us why you are interested in serving on the Tulare County Civil Grand Jury. (Please attach additional pages as needed) _____

16. Describe any background experience or skills you have which would be helpful to grand jury service (i.e., computer skills, leadership skills, or experience writing/editing reports, working in groups, or conducting investigations or interviews.) _____

Would you be willing to serve in any of the following capacities?

FOREPERSON	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
SECRETARY	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

**Mail in the envelope provided or deliver to: Civil Grand Jury
Tulare County Superior Court
221 S. Mooney Blvd., Room 303
Visalia, CA 93291**

Or Fax to: (559) 737-4290

NOTE: Applicants for nomination as a member of the Tulare County Civil Grand Jury are subject to investigation by an appropriate law enforcement agency as to the statutory qualifications for service and the applicant's ability and suitability for service.

In support of my application for selection as a member of the Tulare County Civil Grand Jury, I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing information is true and correct.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

PLEASE RETURN THIS QUESTIONNAIRE NO LATER THAN: April 29, 2011