



Published February 20th, 2019

## Applications Sought for Government Oversight Program

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Contra Costa County Superior Court is accepting applications for Civil Grand Jury service for the fiscal year 2019-20. Nineteen members will be selected and serve for one year, July through June, to monitor, review and report on city and county governments as well as special districts and school districts.

Once selected and sworn in, jurors will attend a two-week training session to meet key members of local government and learn their functions. They organize into committees to investigate local government agencies, research topical materials, interview county executives and their staff, gather facts, and issue written reports with recommendations that will benefit the citizens of Contra Costa County. This unique and powerful system of government oversight was established in the California Constitution in 1849 and applies to each of the 58 counties.

As a Grand Juror you will:

- ? Develop solutions to problems
- ? Meet leading members of every level of the government and tour their facilities
- ? Observe government in action
- ? Experience a sense of making a contribution to the difficult task of governing
- ? Write about the facts, findings and recommendations developed as a result of research, investigations, and reports
- ? Develop strong working relationships with fellow jurors'
- ? Know that your ideas can `make things happen'

Other issues to consider:

- ? Jurors receive a stipend for their service, plus mileage reimbursement, and a parking permit.
- ? Having a working knowledge of Microsoft Word and Excel is a plus.
- ? Be prepared to spend three days a week in committee meetings and perform some work at home.
- ? Confidentiality is imperative and information cannot be discussed with anyone including family members.
- ? Investigations and in-house jury activities are also strictly confidential.
- ? Jurors must be a United States citizen, 18 years of age or older and have been a resident of the County for at least one year prior to selection.

Persons interested in applying may contact the Office of the Civil Grand Jury at (925) 608-2621.

Applications are available online (<http://www.cc-courts.org/civil/grand-jury.aspx>) and at your local library.

The deadline to submit an application is March 22.

Reach the reporter at: [info@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:info@lamorindaweekly.com)

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