



President's Message

I don't know about you, but I love new things, new ideas, new experiences, and new ways of addressing old problems.

For those who do not know me, my name is Douglas Paul Gillen.

And as the new President of the Grand Jurors' Association of Orange County, it is only appropriate that I properly introduce myself to those of you who I have not had the experience, or pleasure of working with in the past. Some of you who have served with me on past Grand Juries dating to 2016-17, or 2018-19 or even 2020-21 may not even know some of this.

My folks moved to Orange County in 1952, where I went to public schools, graduating from Santa Ana High School in 1964. I served in the U.S. Navy from 1967 to 1971 as a Communications Watch Supervisor at USNCBC Port Hueneme and Naval Communications Station Adak, Alaska.

After my tour of duty, I worked in the glass trade, electronics, silk screening, toys (Cabbage Patch), cardiovascular imaging and injection molding. For the 15 years, prior to retirement in December 2015, I conducted insurance audits of companies, construction projects, fire and EMS agencies, and other operations across the western United States. This work was similar to investigations of an agency or County operation. I dropped out of Community College in 1965 but went back 30 plus years later to obtain my BA degree in Organizational Management. This helps me look at any organization, be it volunteer or paid, for ways to make them more effective. Please note that I use the word effective not efficient.

Past work experiences in manufacturing were closely tied to company philosophies of expected results and plans of action to make improvements. One company had the philosophy that, "Quality is the belief that anything can be made better", and I firmly believe that there are avenues and outreach programs that we as an Association have yet to explore that could bring a new awareness to Orange County of what the Grand Jury does, what the Grand Jury has to offer in oversight, and what the Grand Jury can mean for a better Orange County.

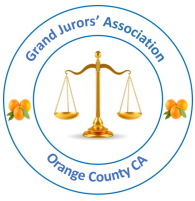
The Association has done great work over the past fifty years. Given all the changes in technology and how we now communicate, it has come time for us, working together, to chart our course for the next fifty. But first, as an Association, we must, as a group determine what our "**Expected Results**" will be. What can we do, what resources do we have to make this possible, and is this something that does not cross lines with the Court?

As past Grand Jurors, we all know the marching orders for the Grand Jury. As members of the Grand Jury Association, we have new and different marching orders – not to duplicate the efforts of the sitting Grand Jury, nor to intervene in their work, but to reach

out to the community to spread awareness of what the Grand Jury does to make Orange County a better place to live for all its residents. Remember the words written on the wall in the panel room: "Working together to make a positive difference."

As the new President, I would like to challenge all members to look for those connections in your local community, the people you interact with on a regular basis. There are touch points where you can speak loudly and proudly about what the Grand Jury does. I just received a notification from the California Grand Jury Association that this coming year they are emphasizing how to build Grand Jury Awareness. So, I see that as part of our challenge going into the next couple of months a targeted program not only of outreach, but information regarding the impact of past and future reports should be a priority.

I look forward to working with as many of you as possible in the coming months as we step into new experiences, a new place to have our quarterly meetings, and a new Board of Directors who will bring new chances to move the Association into the next 50 years.



Grand Jurors' Association of Orange County

To the Membership of the Grand Jurors' Association of Orange County

January, 2022

Officers of the Board, 2022

President	Doug Gillen
1st VP	Lynn Bonas
2nd VP	Karen Kindschi
Secretary	Rick Barker
Treasurer	Ken Blake

Under current covid policies, it was decided by the board to conduct the election via USPS.

This is extraordinary that our new Directors on the Board from the last few panels are willing to serve as officers, and we are grateful for their service!

The next hybrid Board Meeting February 3, 2022 2:00PM on zoom and the home of Lynn Bonas. If you would like to attend by zoom, following is the information. If you would like to attend in person, please contact Lynn Bonas for directions.

Topic: GJAOC board meeting

Time: Feb 3, 2022 02:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84305014301?pwd=c0hpd1IPYkplU24zRUo4Z0JRNjRIUT09>

Meeting ID: 843 0501 4301

Passcode: 356920

This is a county site that lists Citizen Committees and Boards with pertinent information as to meetings and responsibilities. There are interesting opportunities for former Grand Jurors to participate in Community Service in a more focused way:

<https://cob.ocgov.com/sites/cob/files/2021-12/BCC%20Roster%20Detail%20-%20December.pdf>

Our next Luncheon is scheduled for March 3rd at the Santa Ana Elks Lodge, 1751 S. Lyon St. Santa Ana.

Our scheduled speaker is Assistant Presiding Judge, Maria Hernandez who will be speaking on Human Trafficking. This is an excerpt from information posted by Vanguard University's forum on Ending Human Trafficking from 2020:

Hon. Maria Hernandez

Superior Court of California, County of Orange

Judge of the Superior Court-Orange County

The Honorable Judge Maria Hernandez was appointed Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Court for Orange County on January 1, 2014 where she served until January of 2018. During her nine years as a juvenile court judge, she created and presided over the dedicated court addressing commercially sexually exploited children (GRACE-Generating Resources to Abolish Child Exploitation) and co-chaired the Orange County Committee relating to Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC). Judge Hernandez also created and presided over an innovative collaborative court for dedicated to boys in the child welfare system back in 2010 which continues to meet

the needs of highest risk system involved youth. While overseeing all daily court operations for the juvenile branch, she convened the County's first Juvenile Justice Summit in 2016 which brought together over 400 of the county's leaders to address the special needs of the children and families of Orange County.

Menu choices and more information will be sent in February. Just a note to save the date.

The California Grand Jurors' Association sent the following information to us:

Many of you have purchased and read *The California Grand Jury System*, a book first produced in 2010 and last updated in 2014. Now we have another update with significant changes and a new title, *California's Civil Grand Juries*. While the book discusses all of California grand jury authority, the title is more descriptive of the major thrust of the book which is also the primary role of CGJA.

The book is available on our website for reading or downloading at no cost at [California's Civil Grand Juries](#). Please enjoy it and share it with anyone you think may be interested.

The original purpose of this book was to educate as many Californians as possible about the power, authority and effectiveness of civil grand juries as a government watchdog. This updated book has the same objective. We believe it will be even more effective.

Thanks to Bart Harlan and Joe Moreland for their many years of service

and diligence. We appreciate you and will miss you. Congratulations to our new Board Officers.

Thank you for your support during the pandemic!

Stay Healthy and Safe!

Lynn Bonas
1st VP Programs