



## Ambassador Tour Guide Volunteers Needed!

### VOLUNTEERS



The Ambassador program is designed to help visitors gain a greater understanding and appreciation of the work of the Court, its history, and the art and architecture of the buildings.



We have the privilege of becoming "teaching docents" as we provide "civic lesson" tours to students from our local Orange County High Schools. The time spent with these teens allows us to present them with in-person education regarding our Courts and Justice System.



### Interested in Volunteering?

Contact April Lancaster, Ambassador Lead at 714-865-2205 or email her by clicking [here](#) on the Contacts Page on the [gjaoc.org](http://gjaoc.org) website, if you, or someone you know, would be interested in serving as an Ambassador tour guide.

## Ambassador: Noun

1. A diplomatic agent of the highest rank, sent by one sovereign or state to another, either as resident representative, or on temporary special service.
2. An authorized messenger or representative. (Middle English, probably of Celtic origin).



I love words, they define so much of our lives. Definition #2 above should speak to all of us. Now here is the connection of this word Ambassador to our Association. We served on the Grand Jury. According to definition #2, we represented the citizens of Orange County as we went about our work, investigating, making recommendations for improvement, and letting those we represented know what we had done on their behalf. And looking back at definition #1, it was a special service.

I would like to challenge the entire membership of the Grand Jurors' Association to not lose that mindset of being an Ambassador. Some may think that what I did in the past was all I needed to do. Here is your challenge. If you served, guess what, you still serve. You have contacts, neighbors, connections in various organizations where you can speak loudly about what the Grand Jury is, what it does, and how they can become a participant in a very unique way where the citizens of Orange County have a voice in how their government works.

Challenge given. Waiting for your response.



Mailing Address: P.O. Box 354 , Orange, CA 92856

Visit our Website at [GJAOC.ORG](http://GJAOC.ORG)

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# Grand Jurors Association of Orange County



## General Membership and Luncheon Meeting

*Date:* Thursday, December 7 2023

*Where:* Santa Ana Elks Lodge, 1751 S. Lyon Street,  
Santa Ana, CA



### General Membership Meeting

**When:** The General Membership Meeting will be called to order at **11:00 AM**.  
Newly elected Board Members will be sworn in by Judge David O. Carter.

### Luncheon

**Luncheon Reservations are Open!**

**When:** Lunch will be served shortly after the meeting.

**Cost:** Member lunches are **\$25**; Guest lunches are **\$30**

**If you have NOT already sent in your RSVP,**

you may RSVP with your menu option to [RSVP@gjaoc.org](mailto:RSVP@gjaoc.org)

**Please respond by: Friday, December 1, 2023**

**Reservations Required**

**NEW: Credit Cards are accepted at luncheon**

**Appetizer:** Waldorf Salad, Rolls

**Entree:**

**Option 1** - Turkey breast & gravy, cornbread stuffing, cranberry green beans, candied yams.

**Option 2** - Roasted vegetables tossed with organic sauce and penne pasta.

**Option 3** -Gluten free balsamic steak and vegetable salad with vinaigrette dressing.

**Dessert:** Pumpkin pie

**Drinks:** Coffee, Iced Tea Included. All other beverages are cash and carry no host.

## Program Speaker

### Judge David O. Carter

Judge David O. Carter will be the featured speaker. Judge Carter is a district judge of the United States District Court for the Central District of California. With a fascinating background, Judge Carter has spoken to the

group many times in past years. His talks are always trending and informative.



## President's Message - Doug Gillen

Agendas and Minutes can be found on the [gjaoc.org](http://gjaoc.org) website by clicking [here](#).



And the word for this month is **Serve**. I would like to recognize those who have served on the Board, and the work of the Grand Jurors' Association. Those stepping down are April Lancaster, Ian Guajardo, Lynn Bonas, and Marie Whittington. They have served this Board admirably, and my hope is that they continue to support the work of our Association.

Now we come to those entering into their time of service. Some already have stepped up even before being sworn in. Please welcome Chris Evans, John Siragusa, Larry Klementowski, Greg Tettermer, Theresa Elders, and Sandy Dunkin. We look forward to their contributions and leadership as we move forward, and explore new avenues for recruiting, informing and promoting the Grand Jury.

### Membership

Membership information can be found on the [gjaoc.org](http://gjaoc.org) website by clicking [here](#). If you have any questions pertaining to dues, feel free to reach out to Membership Chairman Karen Kindschi at 714-213-6051 or by email under the [Contacts page](#) at the [gjaoc.org](http://gjaoc.org) website.

### Speakers Bureau

Speaking activities are happening all the time. If you belong to a community organization interested in learning about the impact of Grand Jury investigations in both criminal and civil matters, contact Sandy Dunkin by email under the [Contacts page](#) at the [gjaoc.org](http://gjaoc.org) website.

### Court Ambassador Tour

*Interested in volunteering?*

Contact April Lancaster,  
Ambassador Lead, at 714-865-2205



or by email under the [Contacts page](#) on the [gjaoc.org](#) website, if you, or someone you know, would be interested in serving as an Ambassador tour guide.



### OC Go / Taxpayer Oversight Committee Screening Panel

The five member GJAOC OC Go 2023 TOC Applicant Screening Panel has successfully completed their work this year. See the

[gjaoc.org](#) website for further details on the panel.



### Recognition Committee

Five non-profits have been selected by the Ad Hoc Committee for recognition in addressing the issues/recommendations in past Grand Jury reports. A member of each organization will be at the December Luncheon to receive a Certificate of Recognition:

Catarina's Club  
Kherut  
Eli Home

Laura's House  
Radiant Future (formerly Women's Transition Center)



Get Involved contribute Give Inspire Teamwork  
help connect community Purpose Make a difference DONATE Service

**VOLUNTEER at GJAOC**

### Volunteers

Volunteers are the heart of our organization. Check out the many opportunities to become involved in the Grand Jurors' Association at our [gjaoc.org](#) website.



**Join us at the  
GJAOC booth at  
the Placentia  
Tamale Festival on  
Dec 7th.**

Yes, the Placentia Tamale Festival is the same day as our December luncheon. It will run from 4:00 to 10:00 pm. Karen Kindschi and Ken Blake will be holding down the fort with a booth at the festival and hope you will all stop by. Our community events are always lots of fun!

Of course we will be handing out Recruitment flyers and can use help. If you need more details, call Karen Kindschi at 714-213-6051.



Orange County Grand Jury tour of landfill in Brea, CA



# VOLUNTEER TO SERVE ON THE ORANGE COUNTY GRAND JURY

## Make a Difference, Support Sound Government

To be eligible you must be a [County of Orange Resident](#), a [U.S. Citizen](#), [18 years of age](#), or [Older](#), have [command of the English language](#), and possess [sound judgement](#).

## APPLY NOW!

*See reverse side for recruitment timeline.*



The role of a Grand Jury differs substantially from a trial jury. It is a fulltime assignment. Approximately 80% of time is spent in a civil watchdog role with remaining time spent in criminal indictment hearings. No jury trials and all proceedings are closed to the public.

Improve government  
with your  
recommendations

Issue indictments for  
serious crimes

Ensure  
performance of  
county, city & other  
local agencies are  
proper and ethical

For Application &  
Information Visit:  
[www.ocgrandjury.org](http://www.ocgrandjury.org)

or Call 657-622-6747

**\$50 PER DAY STIPEND  
PLUS MILEAGE AND  
RESERVED PARKING  
SPACE**

**19 GRAND JURORS SHALL  
TAKE OATH OF OFFICE FOR A**

**ONE YEAR TERM**

**JULY 1 to JUNE 30**

## CALENDAR

### *Mark your Calendars for future GJAOOC Luncheons*

GJAOOC Luncheons are typically held quarterly at the Santa Ana Elks Lodge. Generally, meetings start at 11:00 am while lunch will be served at 11:30 am. Dates and times, particularly many months out, may be changed, as needed, but will be updated in this Newsletter as well as on the Calendar section of the [gjaoc.org](http://gjaoc.org) website.

Elks Lodge

## FUTURE PROGRAMS CORNER

Honestly, the GJAOOC has been known for its excellent, high-caliber programs and speakers at the luncheons. Even though Program Chairpersons will change with elections from year-to-year, we make every attempt to maintain this level of high quality programs. While everything is subject to change, we thought we might share a couple program subjects that are being discussed for 2024.

- In March 2024, OCSD and Probation Dept. will present information on the Re-entry

1751 S. Lyon Street  
Santa Ana, CA

program for inmates released into  
the County.

2024

March 7, 2024, 11:00 AM  
MEETING & LUNCHEON

June 6, 2024, 11:00 AM  
MEETING & LUNCHEON

September 12, 2024, 11:00 AM  
MEETING & LUNCHEON

December 5, 2024, 11:00 AM  
MEETING & LUNCHEON

- In June 2024, a Federal DOJ prosecutor and two Special Agents with Homeland Security are now members of the OC Human Trafficking and have committed to be speakers.

*Lastly, if any member has a current topic they would like us to pursue, or a special speaker to introduce us to, [click here for the 1st Vice President under Contacts on the gjaoc.org website.](#)*

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