



NEWSLETTER

President's Message - Lynn Bonas

The 2024-2025 Grand Jury produced very timely and relevant reports in spite of the attrition and especially losing the foreperson due to health issues. Kudos to Susan Segal for stepping up and the 14 who worked so diligently to the end of the term.



The 2025-2026 Grand Jury was sworn in on July 1, and they are a very enthusiastic group. We're looking forward to seeing them in September at the luncheon.



This summer I did an All Rise tour of Todd Spitzer's office and was very impressed with the presentation.

The Court Ambassador program is great if you enjoy being with inquisitive kids. The judges, court staff, ADAs, PDs, Sheriff/bailiffs are full of great

information and it's interesting to see how the students respond and want to hear/learn more. It's a program that you can participate in at your convenience. Details below.

Every year the Association looks for members to volunteer to join the Board of Directors. This is an opportunity for everyone to take their talents, skills and drive and put them to good use. The Board of Directors over the past couple of years have found opportunities for the Association to become more involved with our prime directive which is to recruit, inform and promote the work of the Grand Jury. Please let us know if you are interested in serving on the board or any committee. You can participate at whatever level is comfortable. Directors and committee members typically spend a few short hours a month on GJAOC related activities. Several Directors are completing their terms this year. Nominations and voting will be held at the September Luncheon. Details below.

Recognition

This year, the GJAOC Recognition Committee, with Board approval, selected the Orange County Aging Services Collaborative because of its work to enhance connections among organizations addressing issues vital to seniors. Director Jocelyn Rubio-Melendez will be the presenter at the September 11 GJAOC luncheon at the Santa Ana Elks Club.

Several past Grand Juries have looked at gaps in such services. This topic is particularly timely now with a growing older population in Orange County. The Collaborative's four key initiatives include housing, elder abuse prevention, food security, healthcare.

This overarching network of nonprofit and governmental senior services providers maintains an informative website:

<https://www.ocagingservicescollaborative.org/>

Upcoming Events

Luncheon, September 11, 11:00 am

At Santa Ana Elks Lodge
1751 S. Lyon Street
Santa Ana, CA 92705

The GJAOC will recognize the Orange County Aging Services Collaborative. Director Jocelyn Rubio-Melendez is the scheduled speaker. You will receive an email in the coming weeks where you can reserve a spot and select your meal choice.

Membership

Annual Dues are \$20 per July-June year. If you haven't paid your dues for the 2024-2025 term, please do so soon. Dues can be paid by cash, check, or credit card at our next luncheon. If members prefer, they can mail a check to:

Grand Jurors' Association of Orange County

P.O. Box 354
Orange, CA 92856

Remember: only GJAOC members who have paid their yearly dues are eligible to vote and enjoy a discount on luncheon fees! Membership information can be found on the website gjaoc.org/membership. If you have any questions pertaining to dues, feel free to email the Membership Chairman at membership@gjaoc.org



Court Ambassador Tour

Interested in volunteering?

Contact April Lancaster, Ambassador Lead, at 714-865-2205 or by email at ambassador@gjaoc.org if you, or someone you know, would be interested in serving as an Ambassador tour guide. Visit the web page at gjaoc.org/ambassador for further information.

Volunteer

Volunteers are the heart of our organization.



Check out the many opportunities to become involved in the Grand Jurors' Association as described on the website Volunteer page at gjaoc.org/volunteer

Grand Jury Recruitment



Orange County Grand Jury



Accountant | Paralegal | Insurance Adjuster | Barber | Marketing Manager | County Worker | Professor | Statistician | Writer
Nurse | Physician | Business Owner | City Official | IT Leader | Social Worker

Volunteer for a Rewarding Year

You may be eligible to become part of a team of internal investigators who serve a one-year term to improve Orange County. **Apply to be a part of the Orange County Grand Jury!**

- Make a difference to your community
- Meet with top County leaders
- Get exclusive tours of jails, public works, and other key county facilities
- Work on a high-performing team
- ~\$1000 monthly stipend plus mileage with free preferred parking
- Serve as a watchdog entity, ensuring the performance of county, city & other local agencies are proper and ethical.
- Improve your government by making recommendations.
- Issue Indictments for serious crimes

"Serving on the Grand Jury has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life."
- 2024-25 Grand Jury Member

Apply Now!
OCGrandJury.org
or scan



For information visit ocgrandjury.org or call 657-622-6747

Only 19 Grand Jurors are selected for the panel.

Next Term July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026

The role of a Grand Jury differs substantially from a trial jury. It is a full-time assignment. Approximately 80% of the time is spent in a clerk/watchdog role with the remaining time spent on criminal indictment hearings and investigation hearings, not jury trials. Grand Jury proceedings are closed to the public.

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.

Recruitment is year-round.

The ocgrandjury.org website has been updated to include on-line applications which can be filled out all year long. Check it out at ocgrandjury.org.

We can all help the recruiting effort by talking to friends, family, acquaintances and posting on your favorite social media sites. Recruitment materials are on the website at gjaoc.org/recruitment

September 11, 2025, 11:00 AM
MEETING & LUNCHEON

Invitations will be mailed to you in a couple of weeks

Board of Director nominations and voting will be held.

The Orange County Aging Services Collaborative Director, Jocelyn Rubio-Melendez, is the scheduled speaker.

December 4, 2025, 11:00 AM
MEETING & LUNCHEON

Judge David O. Carter is currently scheduled to speak.

CALENDAR

*Mark your
Calendars
for future
GJAOC
Luncheons*

GJAOC 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 website Calendar page at gjaoc.org/calendar

Elks Lodge
1751 S. Lyon Street
Santa Ana, CA

FUTURE PROGRAMS CORNER

Honestly, the GJAOC has been known for its excellent, high-caliber programs and speakers at the luncheons.

Do you have a suggestion for a GJAOC speaker? If so, please email the contact information and why you think our members would enjoy hearing from this person/organization to Programs chair Chris Evans at programs@gjaoc.org

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