



NEWSLETTER

President's Message - Lynn Bonas

The September meeting was very busy, with the introduction of the 2025-2026 Grand Jury and the election of the new board. Several members of the new Grand Jury attended including foreperson Judy Howard, fourth from the left in the photo below.



We had a speaker from the Orange County Aging Services Collaborative, Jocelyn Rubio-Melendrez, who gave a presentation on all the services that are available to our aging population in Orange County. The 2024-2025 GJ panel wrote an excellent report on aging in Orange County. The collaborative encompasses representatives from the stakeholders in the county that provide services, along with the non profits. Shown in the photo below, left to right are guest Gary Pyatt, Speaker Jocelyn Rubio-Melendrez, Board member Lynette Fujitani and OCASC representative Patty Mouton.



During the Luncheon, members voted in 6 GJAOC Board members. Chris Pounds, Greg Tettemer, Lynette Fujitani, Chris Evans, Terri Elders and Lynn Bonas were elected to serve 2 year terms starting in January, 2026

On October 25, the Superior Court had a booth at the Orange County Bar Assn. event in Costa Mesa. The had a wheel to spin to win a prize that had some interesting questions that could be answered by looking at the information sheets, including several on the Grand Jury. Several non profits had booths, as well as the D.A., Public Defender, OC Child Support Services, Legal Aid, Public Law Center. Veterans Legal Institute, Radiant Futures, Human Options, Lawyer Referral, every sub bar association, and law schools were represented. UCI, Chapman and Western States had law students attending and they were a prime target on the Question Wheel. They definitely got schooled on Grand Jury service!



Upcoming Events

Luncheon, December 4, 11:00 am

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

Judge David O. Carter 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.



Get Involved *contribute* Give *Inspire* Teamwork *New Friendships*
 help **VOLUNTEER at GJAOC** 
 connect **Purpose** *Make a difference* DONATE Service
 community

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



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

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

Apply Now!
OCGrandJury.org
 or scan



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 fact-finding assignment. Approximately 80% of the time is spent in a civil watchdog role with the remaining time spent in 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

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

Invitations will be mailed
to you in a couple of
weeks

New Board members will
be sworn in.

Judge David O. Carter will
be the featured speaker,
as he usually is during our
December luncheon.

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

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