



NEWSLETTER

President's Message - Lynn Bonas

June Luncheon

We were very honored to have Ambassador Gaddi Vasquez as our speaker at the June Luncheon. He spoke on a wide range of topics, including his Orange County roots, his time as the head of the Peace Corps, with our own Teri Elders, and his experience as Ambassador to the United Nations. Very interesting and informative, and we all learned something from his talk.



2026-2027 Panel Sworn In

On July 1st, the 2025-2026 was discharged and the 2026-2027 panel was sworn in. The foreperson is Susan Segal, a familiar member who was pro tem and stepped up as foreperson of the 2024-2025 Grand Jury.



Board of Director Elections

We will have elections at the Sep 10 General Meeting and Luncheon. Please note that you don't have to be on the Board to serve on a committee. We are so fortunate to have members who serve on committees, and if you have an interest, please let us know. [More information below.](#)

Luncheon September 10 11:00 am

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

General Meeting- GJAOC Board of Director nominations and elections.
(More info below.)

Program- The Luncheon program and speaker have not been finalized yet. Once that is completed, invitations with program information, menu options and RSVP information will be mailed out. Expect them in a few weeks.

GJAOC at OC Fair

A primary mission of the GJAOC is to recruit Grand Jurors. One of the recruiting events that has had success in the past was having a table at the OC Fair. This year the Courts have scheduled Friday Aug 7- Sunday Aug 9 as days at the OC Fair. Several GJAOC members are scheduled to man the booth then. If you're at the fair during any of those days, stop by to see us!



GJAOC Board of Director Positions Open

As mentioned in the President's Message, we will be electing Board of Directors at the September Luncheon. Every GJAOC member is eligible to serve on the 11 member Board of Directors. Directors may serve up to 3 consecutive 2 calendar year terms. The terms of 5 of the 11 Directors will be up at the end of December. None have served more than 2 terms so all are eligible for reelection. Unfortunately, one of them, Karen Kindschi, has decided to retire. Thanks for all the hard work these past several years, Karen! But this means we have at least one opening.

Monthly Board meetings are held in person and via Zoom and all Directors are encouraged to attend to discuss business and vote on matters when required. Beyond that, your participation level is up to you.

Interested GJAOC members will be nominated and the Directors voted in at the September General Meeting and Luncheon. Elected Directors will then be sworn in at the December Luncheon to begin their terms at the January 2027 Board Meeting.

Please let us know if you are interested in serving as a Board Director. We'd like to have a full slate of candidates that we can include with the Luncheon invitations. Ideally, let us know if you are interested by Aug 10. For more information contact the Membership Chair, Greg Tettermer, at greg.tettermer@gmail.com

Civil Grand Jurors' Association

The Civil Grand Jurors' Association of California (CGJA) consists of California county civil grand jury organizations and their members. Any county civil grand jury and individual current or ex civil grand juror can become a member for a small annual fee. Their mission is "To promote, preserve, and support the civil grand jury system through training, education, and outreach." The CGJA

provides support for the county organizations, particularly the smaller county associations that don't have the resources the larger organizations, like the GJAOC, have. Most of the larger county civil grand juror organizations are not part of the CGJA since they have enough members and are adequately supported by their courts that they don't need the extra help.

The GJAOC Board is considering joining the CGJA and the CGJA Board has encouraged us to do so. Several individual GJAOC members are also members of the CGJA, several are CGJA certified trainers, and several have attended the annual CGJA Convention held in the fall. The goal of joining would be to support the CGJA and smaller county organizations where we can help. However, the GJAOC is self-sufficient and we have a great relationship with the Court so we do not want to make any significant changes in our operations or By-Laws. If it appears joining the CGJA would result in significant changes, we would decline and continue as we have been. For further information or to express your opinion, please contact any of the GJAOC Directors or attend a Board meeting or Luncheon. You may also email them. See the Contacts page on the website at gjaoc.org/contacts.

As mentioned above, the annual CGJA Conference is coming up. It is scheduled for Nov 1 and 2 in Sacramento. For more information about the CGJA or the Convention, see their website at cgja.org.

OC Bar Association Seeks Volunteer Arbitrators

The Orange County Bar Association (OCBA) is currently seeking non-attorney volunteers to serve as arbitrators on the Mandatory Fee Arbitration Committee. In this role, volunteers will serve as a non-attorney arbitrator on a three-person panel to help resolve fee disputes between clients and their attorneys as set forth in Business and Profession Codes. Volunteers are required to participate in at least one arbitration per year. Meetings are generally via Zoom. Volunteers must have the necessary qualifications to serve as a neutral non-attorney arbitrator. Volunteers cannot be an attorney, paralegal, legal assistant, law student, or have attended law school. Free training is provided to volunteers.

For more information, please contact Public Services Coordinator, Dana Mullin, at (949) 440-6700, ext. 110 or email her at dmullin@ocbar.org

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 4472
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



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

"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



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

- 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.

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

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 judgment.



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

**Aug 6, 2026, 1:00 PM
GJAOC BOARD MEETING**

The next GJAOC Board meeting will be held in person and via Zoom. For more information, see the website [Calendar](#) page.

**Sep 10, 2026, 11:00 AM
MEETING & LUNCHEON**

Invitations will be mailed to you in a couple of weeks.

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 4472 , Orange, CA 92856

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