

2006-2007

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY
GRAND JURY



FINAL REPORT

COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO

GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT



2006-2007

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE



*Back – Gary Moran, Burrell Woodring, Roderic Moers
Front – JoAnn Miller, Lois Long-Chair, Carol Sharp*

The Editorial Committee would like to acknowledge and thank the following individuals for their hard work and invaluable assistance in the preparation of the Final Report of the 2006-2007 San Bernardino County Grand Jury.

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Photographs	Silvia Schreiber, Graphic Designer
Printing Services	County Printing Services Personnel
Typing/Preparation	Melonee Vartanian, Grand Jury Assistant



FOREMAN'S STATEMENT

In accordance with the Constitution of the State of California (Article 1, Section 23), each county in the state shall draw and summon one or more Grand Juries each year. The citizen-residents of San Bernardino County have been performing this public service and duty for more than 150 years.

Drawing on volunteers from throughout the county and each supervisorial district, the 19-member 2006/2007 San Bernardino County Grand Jury was impaneled and sworn in for one year, effective July 1, 2006. (Details of Grand Jury background, membership, duties, obligations, and commitments are given in the appendix at the end of this report.)

What follows is the consensus Final Report of the activities, investigations, finding and recommendation of the 2006/2007 Grand Jury. It represents the year-long effort to look into local government toward the goal of improving the function of government in service to county residents. This report does not include many investigations conducted which were later deemed not of sufficient merit, quality or quantity to present to the public.

In addition to its civil investigations, the Grand Jury assisted the County District Attorney with five investigative hearings on criminal matters.

Service on a Grand Jury can be considered a privilege and a duty. The men and women of this Grand Jury applied themselves with a full measure of both. The thousands of hours they collectively devoted to learning about government and its complexities, their ability to collect, analyze and distill great amounts of information to concise, meaningful reports, and their determination to be fair and honest in their investigations should be greatly appreciated.

In the quest for knowledge about County government operations, Jurors spent evenings and off-days attending functions such as graduation ceremonies of the Sheriff's Academy in San Bernardino, the "State of the County" presentation in Ontario, and sessions of "Service First," the countywide customer service improvement program. In addition, Jurors in their investigations, traveled the county to such diverse locations as Rancho Cucamonga to the west, Barstow to the north and Yucca Valley to the east, most often on off-days and using their own vehicles.

On another level, the giving of time by Grand Jurors to their public service, while sacrificing personal agendas such as vacations, is worthy of a very strong Thank You. To several Jurors, whose commitment and effort were truly "above and beyond," there is a special thanks owed, especially from their fellow Jurors.

Notwithstanding Juror effort, this report is in no small way the result of the high level of access given by the County Board of Supervisors (all of whom were individually interviewed), the Sheriff, the District Attorney, and other elected officials, as well as county government department heads and individual county employees. A particular note of access is made of County Administrative Officer, Mark Uffer, who met at least six times during our year with the Full Grand Jury or its committees. We found little reluctance by the people in the county government to talk to the Grand Jury in confidence about any subject governing their jobs or government operations.

A special recognition must be given to two people who have together shaped County Grand Juries, including this one, for more than 30 years. Sue Shuey, Grand Jury Assistant, and Clark Hansen, Jr., Deputy District Attorney and Grand Jury Legal Advisor. Their knowledge and guidance was invaluable.

On behalf of the 2006/2007 San Bernardino County Grand Jury, I trust this report of our service in the interest of good government will prove to be beneficial to all the residents of the county.

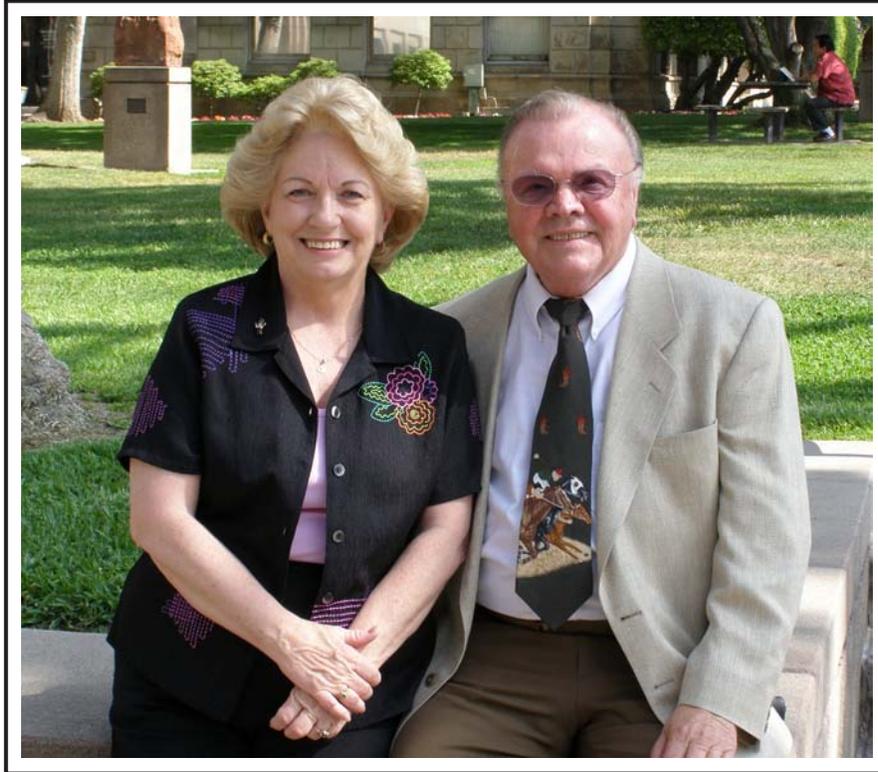


ALFRED J. DUBIEL

Foreman

2006/2007 San Bernardino County Grand Jury

DEDICATION AND 54 YEARS OF SERVICE



Susan (Sue) Shuey and Clark A. Hansen, Jr.

Susan (Sue) Shuey, Grand Jury Assistant, and Clark A. Hansen, Jr., Grand Jury Legal Advisor, have a combined 54 years of professional, dedicated service to San Bernardino County's Grand Jury.

The 2006-2007 Grand Jury is proud to dedicate this final report to these two outstanding public servants on their retirement this year.

Sue Shuey began her career with the county in 1968 as a clerk in the County Administrative Office. She was promoted several times in the CAO office and in 1974, she was assigned as secretary to the Grand Jury and as secretary to the Presiding Judge. She also was supervisor for six judicial secretaries. In 1983, the new Court Executive Office relieved her of her supervisor duties and assigned her full time to the Grand Jury. That was 33 years, and 627 Grand Jury members ago.

Clark A. Hansen, Jr. graduated with honors in 1963 from USC Law School. He became a San Bernardino County Deputy District Attorney in 1964 and he rose to the position of Chief Deputy District Attorney. He left the District Attorney's Office in 1978 to return to the private practice of law. In 1986, he returned to the District Attorney's Office to become the legal advisor for the Grand Jury. In 1996, Clark retired from the County as a Deputy District Attorney. On his retirement, he was hired by the District Attorney as a special consultant and contracted to advise the Grand Jury until his retirement this year.

2006-2007 GRAND JURY SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

Alfred J. Dubiel	◇	Foreman
Victor G. Edinburgh	◇	Foreman Pro Tem
JoAnn L. Miller	◇	Secretary
Marianne Della Marna	◇	Assistant Secretary
Ron Brooks	◇	Sergeant-at-Arms
Ellen L. Miller	◇	Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms

Ron Brooks	◇	Pinon Hills
Jeanne Choisnet	◇	San Bernardino
Marianne Della Marna	◇	Alta Loma
Alfred J. Dubiel	◇	Ontario
Victor G. Edinburgh	◇	San Bernardino
William E. Howard	◇	Rialto
Lois C. Long	◇	Lytle Creek
Thomas Ma	◇	Ontario
Clyde Metzler	◇	Victorville
Ellen L. Miller	◇	Fontana
JoAnn L. Miller	◇	San Bernardino
Roderic J. Moers	◇	San Bernardino
Gary Moran	◇	Yucaipa
Roy H. Nierman	◇	Highland
Carol Sharp	◇	Crestline
Kenneth D. Taylor	◇	Running Springs
Elias G. Valdez	◇	Running Springs
Burrell S. Woodring	◇	Yucaipa
Dennis Zimmerman	◇	Chino Hills

RESIGNATIONS:

Suzanne T. Reading, August 2006

Presiding Judge 2006-07	◇	Larry W. Allen
Legal Advisor	◇	Clark A. Hansen, Jr.
Grand Jury Assistant	◇	Susan L. Shuey (Retired)
Grand Jury Assistant	◇	Melonee A. Vartanian

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY GRAND JURY 2006-2007



From left to right:

*Back row – Kenneth Taylor, Dennis Zimmerman, Victor Edinburgh, Ron Brooks,
Gary Moran, Alfred Dubiel-Foreman, Thomas Ma*

*Center row – Burrel Woodring, William Howard, JoAnn Miller, Roy Nierman,
Elias Valdez, Roderic Moers*

*Front row – Sue Shuey, Clark Hansen, Ellen Miller, Carol Sharp,
Jeanne Choisnet, Lois Long, Melonee Vartanian*

Not pictured – Marianne Della Marna and Clyde Metzler



Larry W. Allen, Presiding Judge



TABLE OF CONTENTS
2006-2007 GRAND JURY
FINAL REPORT

	<u>Page</u>
ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE	1
Architecture and Engineering	
303 Building	2
Board of Supervisors/County Counsel	4
County Administrative Officer	9
Human Resources Department	10
Information Services	12
Public Health Department	
Animal Care and Control	14
Vector Control Program	15
Risk Management	18
Solid Waste	20
AUDIT/FISCAL COMMITTEE	23
Assessor	24
COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE	26
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE	27
Redevelopment	28
HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE	29
Department of Aging and Adult Services	
Ombudsman	30
Department of Children's Services	
Foster Care	32

	<u>Page</u>
LAW AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE	33
Indigent Defense Contracts	34
Indigent Defense Fee Collection	36
Judicial Benefits	39
Probation	42
Public Defender	47
Sheriff-Coroner	
Barstow Sheriff's Station	50
Central Court Holding	52
Coroner Division	53
Immigration Customs Enforcement (ICE)	55
Scientific Investigations Division	56
Sheriff's Training Center/Academy	57
PUBLIC AND SUPPORT SERVICES COMMITTEE	59
County Fire Department	
Communication Center	60
Support Services/Hazardous Material/Sewell Training Center	61
Land Use Services	63
Registrar of Voters	65
APPENDIX	
About the San Bernardino County Grand Jury	