

2005-2006

San Bernardino County

GRAND JURY

FINAL REPORT





COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO

**GRAND JURY
FINAL REPORT**

2005-2006

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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 2005-2006 San Bernardino County Grand Jury.

Graphic Arts
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County Printing Services Personnel
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FOREMAN'S STATEMENT

The 2005-2006 San Bernardino County Grand Jury is pleased to present this final report to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court, the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors, and the citizens of San Bernardino County.

This has been a very active year for the Grand Jury. Normally, the Grand Jury's year starts out with 19 citizens who have to spend the first 4 or 5 months of their year just learning about the County operations through visitations by each of the department heads and their staff. It is not until those visits/presentations are complete that the Grand Jury can proceed with its department investigations. This year we were fortunate to have six former Grand Jurors who applied and were selected to serve. This helped tremendously in getting us started with our investigations sooner and helped everyone have a better understanding of the Grand Jury process.

I was one of the former Grand Jurors selected, and feel honored that I was chosen by the Presiding Judge to be the Foreman. This is a responsibility that I did not take lightly. I would like to thank all of the 18 other Grand Jurors who made my job so very easy this past year. Without them, nothing would have been accomplished.

The Grand Jury's goal is to complete a Final Report by the end of June and submit it to the Presiding Judge and the Board of Supervisors by July 1. The Board of Supervisors then has up to 90 days to respond. In many instances, the Grand Jury may have completed some of its investigations in October or November of the preceding year, but the report doesn't go to the Board of Supervisors until July of the next year; and then they don't respond until October, possibly 12 months after the completion of the investigation! At that point, the term of the Grand Jury who wrote the report has been over for three months and they have no opportunity to respond to the County's response.

The 2005-2006 Grand Jury felt it was critical that if an investigation turned up important issues that should not be held up until the Final Report, we should initiate the option of submitting an Interim Report. The Penal Code allows for such a report, but the Board of Supervisors is still not required to answer until it responds to the Final Report. But at least the information and the Grand Jury's recommendations will be published for the citizens of the County and the Board to see and perhaps act upon.

During the 2005-2006 year, this Grand Jury released four (4) Interim Reports. The Grand Jury felt these issues were important enough that we did not want to wait until the end of our term to bring them out in the open. All four of these Interim Reports are included in this Final Report. I hope that future Grand Juries will give consideration to issuing more Interim Reports. If we truly find a problem that needs correcting now, the Grand Jury shouldn't wait for a year to let the County know of this issue.

The 2004-2005 Grand Jury Foreman discussed in his Statement in that Final Report the issue of the costs to the County and its citizens of services to illegal immigrants. At the beginning of the 2005-2006 Grand Jury term, I requested all Grand Jury committee and sub-committee chairmen ask each and every department they investigated if: (1) They provided services to illegal immigrants; (2) If so, what services; (3) What is the County cost of these services to illegal immigrants; and (4) Has anyone told them that they cannot ask users of the service about their legal status? You will find a report on this subject contained in this Final Report. We believe you will find it quite disturbing when you see the dollar amounts illegal immigrants are costing the County and taxpayers from just six (6) departments.

The Grand Jury has a difficult job. We are saddled with the role of investigating a government operation with almost 18,000 employees; all departments/entities of the County government (58); plus special districts. It is impossible to do a thorough investigation of this massive operation. But, each and every year 19 dedicated citizens of the County attempt to accomplish this task. Even though the job is almost impossible, the 2005-2006 Grand Jury made every effort to comply with their Charge. I again must give my thanks and congratulations to them for a job well done.

I would also like to state that this Grand Jury believes that the majority of San Bernardino County employees are truly dedicated and want to do a good job. The department heads and department supervisors were very cooperative in helping the Grand Jury understand what their departments' job was all about. There were a few times when we felt we were being "stonewalled" in hopes we would go away, but not too often. I would especially like to thank Mark Uffer, County Administrative Officer. Mr. Uffer has been extremely cooperative with this Grand Jury.

Finally, I take my hat off to the two people who make the Grand Jury's job possible. Sue Shuey, Grand Jury Assistant, and Clark Hansen, Jr., Deputy District Attorney and Grand Jury Legal Advisor. These two individuals provide leadership, guidance and support throughout the year. They have been doing this for many, many years and are a tremendous asset to the Grand Jury, the Superior Court and the County of San Bernardino, both government and the citizenry. I thank them for making my job so much easier.



BRADFORD L. KUIPER
Foreman
2005-2006 Grand Jury

2005-2006 GRAND JURY SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

| | | |
|----------------------|---|---------------------|
| Bradford L. Kuiper | ◇ | Foreman |
| J. Mark Taylor | ◇ | Foreman Pro Tem |
| Susan S. Brewster | ◇ | Secretary |
| Lawrence E. Rich | ◇ | Assistant Secretary |
| Allen D. (Skip) Burt | ◇ | Sergeant-at-Arms |

| | | |
|----------------------|---|-----------------|
| Melvin E. Abeyta | ◇ | Highland |
| Gordon G. Bjorklund | ◇ | Running Springs |
| Susan S. Brewster | ◇ | Alta Loma |
| Franklin J. Browning | ◇ | Bloomington |
| Allen D. (Skip) Burt | ◇ | Alta Loma |
| Kenneth E. Dean | ◇ | Hesperia |
| Arden C. Fritz | ◇ | Yucaipa |
| Thomas H. Hale | ◇ | Redlands |
| Betty Lou Hornbrook | ◇ | Yucaipa |
| Bradford L. Kuiper | ◇ | Apple Valley |
| Elaine M. Marable | ◇ | Apple Valley |
| Catherine P. Meister | ◇ | Colton |
| Melinda J. O'Connor | ◇ | Hesperia |
| Jenny L. Overton | ◇ | San Bernardino |
| M. A. "Kelly" Potter | ◇ | Hesperia |
| Lawrence E. Rich | ◇ | Rialto |
| J. Mark Taylor | ◇ | Apple Valley |
| Frank B. Travis | ◇ | Chino |

RESIGNATIONS:

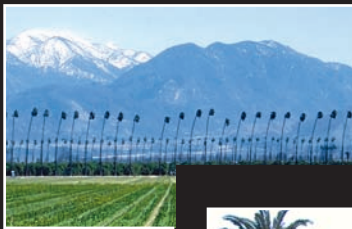
| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| Joetta Lee Moore (August 2005) | Chino Hills |
| Joe A. Diaz (August 2005) | Alta Loma |
| Roberta F. Minor (August 2005) | Fontana |
| Michael Martinez (May 2006) | Ontario |

| | | |
|----------------------|---|----------------------|
| Presiding Judge 2005 | ◇ | Peter H. Norell |
| Presiding Judge 2006 | ◇ | Larry W. Allen |
| Legal Advisor | ◇ | Clark A. Hansen, Jr. |
| Grand Jury Assistant | ◇ | Susan L. Shuey |



Front (left to right): Susan L. Shuey (Grand Jury Assistant), Catherine Meister, Clark A. Hansen, Jr. (Grand Jury Legal Advisor), Kelly Potter, Frank Travis, Brad Kuiper (Foreman), Presiding Judge Larry W. Allen, Gordon Bjorklund, Elaine Marable, Sue Shuey (Assistant to the Grand Jury Assistant)
 Back (left to right): Larry Rich, Mark Taylor, Susan Brewster, Tom Hale, Arden Fritz, Mel Abeyta, Frank Browning, Skip Burt, Betty Hornbrook, Jenny Overton, Ken Dean, Melinda O'Connor

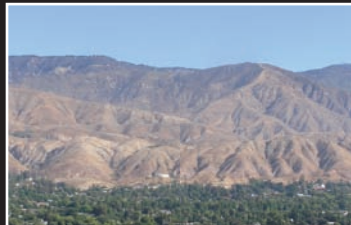
San Bernardino County 2005-2006 Grand Jury



SB Architecture



SB Government Center



San Bernardino Mountains



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