



County of Santa Cruz

GRAND JURY

701 OCEAN STREET, ROOM 318-I
Santa Cruz, Ca 95060
(831) 454-2099

June 25, 2009

Dear Reader,

Nineteen of your fellow Santa Cruz County residents have spent the past year and thousands of hours studying, investigating, researching and writing this report. Each of the jurors brings a wealth of training and personal experience to the task. Three jurors are completing two years of service, having chosen to hold over from the 2007-2008 panel.

We have written reports on six areas of our county in an effort to assist public agencies and our city and county governments to operate more efficiently and, hopefully, economically. The report is provided to the public in the hope that others will join in our efforts to improve the work of these agencies.

The Civil Grand Jury has only the authority to bring issues to the attention of the citizens and the media. Some of the information will praise an agency for a job well done. Other information will help an agency or department do a better job. Each of these city or county departments and other agencies is required by law to respond to the report findings and recommendations if the Jury requests a response. The report will be published again early in 2010 with those responses included.

It is possible that you have filed a complaint with the Civil Grand Jury that is not covered in this report. We were not able to explore all of the issues presented to us, not even all the issues we wanted to cover. We considered close to fifty issues, and had to limit our research to just a few. You are welcome to address next year's Grand Jury with concerns you have. The next Jury will be empanelled from July 1, 2009, to June 30, 2010. They will be glad to receive your suggestions and concerns.

We on this year's Grand Jury urge each citizen to consider saying yes when invited to serve on the Grand Jury. It is a significant commitment of time for a year, but it is very rewarding and a wonderful investment of your time and talents.

For more information on the Grand Jury, including complaint forms and past reports, please go to www.co.santa-cruz.ca.us/grandjury.

On behalf of the other eighteen members,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Clyde R. Vaughn".

Clyde Vaughn
Foreperson, 2008-2009 Grand Jury