

COMPLIANCE REPORT

SUMMARY

The Monterey County Civil Grand Jury monitors the required responses from government entities to Findings and Recommendations issued by prior grand juries. Jurors determine whether those responses are complete and legally sufficient pursuant to Penal Code Sections 933 and 933.05. This monitoring effort promotes accountability and continuity from one jury term to the next.

The 2025–2026 Civil Grand Jury (CGJ) reviewed responses to the 2024–2025 Civil Grand Jury reports to determine whether mandatory responses were received within statutory timeframes and whether those responses met statutory requirements. The CGJ also considered whether additional follow-up was warranted based on the nature and timing of prior recommendations.

BACKGROUND

The California Constitution requires each county to empanel a Civil Grand Jury and publish a report at the conclusion of its one-year term. These reports identify Findings and Recommendations for government entities and elected officials to improve government operations and efficiency.

Penal Code Section 933 requires governing bodies to respond within 90 days of report publication. Elected officials must respond within 60 days. Under Penal Code Section 933.05, responses must indicate agreement or disagreement with each finding and specify whether each recommendation has been implemented, will be implemented with a timeframe, requires further analysis with a defined scope and timeframe, or will not be implemented with an explanation.

METHODOLOGY

The CGJ reviewed the 2024–2025 Civil Grand Jury’s final reports and identified all entities and elected officials required to submit written responses. The CGJ

verified whether responses were submitted within statutory deadlines and thoroughly reviewed each submission to determine compliance with Penal Code requirements.

The CGJ evaluated whether additional follow-up regarding implementation was appropriate. Given the nature of certain recommendations and the timing of prior actions, the CGJ determined that extensive additional follow-up this year would be either redundant or premature.

DISCUSSION

The CGJ received all required responses to the 2024–2025 reports and confirmed that they were posted to the CGJ website. Each response addressed the Findings and Recommendations in accordance with statutory requirements.

For the report entitled “Road Safety in Monterey County: Where to Report a Problem”, responding agencies indicated implementation of the recommended website and reporting system enhancements. As those actions had already been implemented consistent with the recommendations, further inquiry this year was not necessary.

For the report entitled “Monterey’s Deteriorating Wharves: A Concern for Public Safety”, several recommendations involved long-term maintenance planning and capital improvements with multi-year timelines. Given the early stage of those timelines, the CGJ determined that a comprehensive re-evaluation during this term would be premature.

2024–2025 CIVIL GRAND JURY REPORTS AND RESPONSES RECEIVED

Report Title	Required Responses	Required Responses Received	Statutory Compliance
Monterey’s Deteriorating Wharves, A Concern for Public Safety	City of Monterey	Yes (Timely)	Compliant
Road Safety in Monterey: Where to Report a Problem	Monterey County Board of Supervisors City of Del Rey Oaks City of Pacific Grove City of Salinas Sand City City of Seaside City of Soledad Transportation Agency for Monterey County	Yes (Timely)	Compliant

CONTINUITY

Although Penal Code Sections 933 and 933.05 do not require post-response implementation reporting, continued monitoring of long-term commitments remains an important component of institutional continuity. Future Civil Grand Juries may wish to review recommendations involving multi-year planning or capital investment cycles to assess ongoing progress.

CONCLUSION

The CGJ determined that all entities required to respond to the 2024–2025 Civil Grand Jury reports submitted responses that met the requirements of Penal Code Sections 933 and 933.05.

Governmental entities or elected officials who fail to submit required responses undermine the mission and work of the Civil Grand Jury. Timely and complete responses demonstrate accountability and transparency in service to the residents of Monterey County.

REFERENCES

California Legislative Information. Penal Code § 933 and § 933.05.

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?sectionNum=933.&lawCode=PEN

Monterey County Civil Grand Jury. Final Reports 2024–2025.

<https://www.countyofmonterey.gov/government/participate-get-involved/civil-grand-jury/reports>