

This document is an extract of a larger publication.

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Jury page of the Plumas County website or by sending a written request to:

Plumas County Grand Jury  
P.O. Box 784  
Quincy, CA 95971

The Grand Jury functions lawfully only as a body. No individual grand juror, acting alone, has any authority. Meetings of the Grand Jury are not open to the public. The Penal Code requires that all matters discussed before the Grand Jury and all deliberations are to be kept private and confidential. The end result of all investigations into civil matters is released to the public in a final report, which sets forth the findings and recommendations of the Grand Jury.

Participation in Grand Jury investigation and discussion is an opportunity to get an intimate look at how government works and to make informed and valuable recommendations regarding possible improvements. It is also an opportunity to serve with fellow county residents and to discover how a body of nineteen citizens reaches consensus. Service on the Grand Jury is also a way to contribute and to make a positive difference. Jurors serve 12 months and may be requested to serve a second 12 months. The term of the Grand Jury runs from July 1 to June 30.

### **Note to Respondents**

Effective January 1, 1997, there was an extensive change in the law affecting respondents and responses to Grand Jury findings and recommendations. The legal requirements are contained in the California Penal Code, Section 933.05.

For assistance of all respondents, Penal Code Sec. 933.05 is summarized as follows:

### **How to Respond to Findings**

The responding person or entity must, within time frames specified in Penal Code Section 933(c), respond in one of two ways:

1. That you agree with the finding.
2. That you disagree wholly or partially with the finding, in which case the response shall specify the portion of the finding that is disputed and shall include an explanation of the reasons for disagreement.

## **How to Report Action in Response to Recommendations**

Recommendations by the Grand Jury require action (Penal Code 933.05). The responding person or entity must report action on all recommendations in one of four ways:

1. The recommendation has been implemented, with summary of the implemented action.
2. The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future, with a time frame for implementation.
3. The recommendation requires further analysis. If the person or entity reports in this manner, the law requires an explanation of the analysis or studies in a time frame not to exceed six months.
4. The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable, with an explanation.

If either a finding or recommendation deals with budgetary or personnel matters of a county department headed by an elected officer, both the elected officer and the Board of Supervisors shall respond if the Grand Jury so requests, but the response of the Board of Supervisors shall address only those budgetary or personnel matters over which it has some decision-making authority.

### **Requirement to Respond**

No later than 90 days after the Grand Jury submits a final report on the operations of any public agency subject to its reviewing authority, the governing body of the public agency (includes departments) shall comment to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court on the findings and recommendations pertaining to matters under the control of the governing body. Every elected county officer or agency head for which the Grand Jury has responsibility pursuant to Section 914.1 shall comment within 60 days to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court, with an information copy sent to the Board of Supervisors, on the findings and recommendations pertaining to matters under the control of that county officer or agency head and any agency or agencies which that officer or agency head supervises or controls. All of these comments and reports shall forthwith be submitted to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court who impaneled the Grand Jury.