

This document is an extract of a larger publication.

civilgrandjury.org is a project of UnGovr.org, a US-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to government transparency and public accountability.





TABLE OF CONTENTS

FOREPERSON'S LETTER	ii
2022–2023 SANTA CRUZ COUNTY CIVIL GRAND JURY MEMBERS	iii
THE REPORTS	
CORE: The Needs of The Community Equitably Distributed	1
<i>A Model of Transparency</i>	
Cyber Threat Preparedness	11
<i>Phishing and Passwords and Ransomware, Oh My!</i>	
Envisioning the Future of our Jails	35
<i>We Continue to "Kick The Can"</i>	
Housing Our Workers	57
<i>Essential Workers Need Affordable Housing!</i>	
Honoring Commitments to the Public	95
<i>County Agency Actions in Response to 2019-2020 Grand Jury Recommendations</i>	
Diagnosing the Crisis in Behavioral Health	117
<i>Underfunded, Understaffed & Overworked</i>	
Surveillance State in Santa Cruz County	145
<i>Who surveils those who surveil us?</i>	
Code Compliance Division - Out of Compliance	165
<i>It's not easy, but it shouldn't be impossible</i>	

June 30, 2023

Honorable Syda Cogliati, Presiding Judge
Superior Court of California, County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, California 95060

Dear Judge Cogliati,

On behalf of the 2022-23 Santa Cruz County Civil Grand Jury, it is with great pride that I present our Consolidated Final Report to the residents of Santa Cruz County.

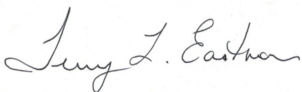
This has been a year of transition for the Grand Jury, from the imposed isolation and virtual work environment of COVID back to in-person meetings and work sessions. Like many other public and private entities, the jury's work environment will likely continue to be a hybrid of physical and virtual meetings.

Our jury members, like those before us, applied for this opportunity because of an interest in the community and a desire to understand more about how local government works. Looking back, it is amazing to think that 19 strangers could come together and work collaboratively to research and produce reports on a variety of topics that few knew anything about prior to jury service. Like previous juries, the 2022-23 Santa Cruz County Civil Grand Jury did just that, and did so with a cohesive, professional focus.

It is a daunting task to learn about the workings of city or county governmental agencies and also research a topic that the leaders of those agencies know more about than many of the jurors. Still, it is vitally important to do so. As I learned many times in my professional life, one of the most important voices in any discussion or decision process is the one who sees the topic with a new set of eyes. That is what the Santa Cruz County Civil Grand Jury does. Hopefully, the 2022-23 reports will give the public an opportunity to benefit from that perspective. The reports may expose an issue that county or city officials need to address, but they also educate the public about topics of interest and, sometimes, they shine a light on the good work that county and city agencies are already doing. Santa Cruz County Civil Grand Jury service is an example of our California democracy at its best.

I want to thank all of the jurors for their service. It was a privilege and a pleasure to get to know all of them. I also want to commend the clerks, John Rible, David Heintz, and Eric Decker, for all of their support and help in the editing and publication of the reports. County Counsel Suzanne Yang has offered prompt and supportive guidance, as has the Honorable Judge Syda Cogliati. Thank you Judge Cogliati for supervising the jury tactfully and trustfully. The jury is grateful for your ongoing help.

Sincerely,



Terry Eastman, Foreperson
2022-2023 Santa Cruz County Civil Grand Jury



2022–2023 SANTA CRUZ COUNTY CIVIL GRAND JURY

Back Row: Pat Downward, Jim Goodrich, Jill Wynn, Rodney Sellers
Front Row: Dick Lovelace, Katie Barlow, Dean Kashino, Terry Eastman, Julie Dixon, and Richard Hencke
Not Pictured: Rose Ashford, Colleen Sullivan, Jesus De La Rosa, Kevin Dempsey, and Bonnie Morr

Foreperson **Terry Eastman**
Foreperson Pro Tempore **Rodney Sellers**
Treasurer **Julie Dixon**
Secretary **Pat Downward**

Photo Credits: Cover picture by Shmuel Thaler, juror picture is a personal photo.

[This page intentionally left blank.]

