

This document is an extract of a larger publication.

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INTRODUCTION TO THE 2025-2026 PLUMAS COUNTY CIVIL GRAND JURY

This consolidated report summarizes the activities and findings of the 2025–2026 Plumas County Civil Grand Jury. Over its one-year term, the Jury conducted investigations into county operations and identified areas where government practices can be strengthened, and public resources used more effectively. The report reflects the collective efforts of all Jury members and provides a transparent account of the Jury’s work in promoting accountability, efficiency, and good governance within Plumas County.

COMPOSITION AND PURPOSE OF THE CIVIL GRAND JURY

The Plumas County Civil Grand Jury is composed of citizens selected from the county’s jury pool who volunteer and are appointed by a Superior Court judge to serve one-year terms. The Jury evaluates county and elected officials to ensure public funds are used efficiently, identifies opportunities to improve government operations, and reviews citizen complaints from Plumas County. The duties, powers, qualifications, and selection process of the Civil Grand Jury are established under California Penal Code §888.

Reduction in Size of the Plumas County Civil Grand Jury

Prior to November 2025, Plumas County was authorized to impanel nineteen jurors. Due to ongoing vacancies and a shortage of alternates, the 2025–2026 Grand Jury requested approval to reduce its membership to eleven members, as permitted under state law. The Plumas County Board of Supervisors approved this change in November 2025.

California law allows smaller counties to impanel an eleven-member Grand Jury instead of the nineteen members typical of larger jurisdictions. For a rural county like Plumas, this smaller structure maintains effective oversight while reflecting population size, workload, and fiscal responsibility, without compromising the Jury’s independence or investigative authority.

JUROR CONDUCT AND CONFIDENTIALITY

All Civil Grand Jury proceedings are confidential. Jurors work collaboratively, and all investigations, findings, and recommendations are the result of group discussion and consensus.

Jurors are legally required to keep all matters discussed and documents reviewed private, both during and after their term. This confidentiality ensures the integrity of the Jury’s work, protects individuals involved, and allows jurors to carry out their duties without outside influence or interference.

INVESTIGATIONS AND CITIZEN COMPLAINTS

Each year, the Civil Grand Jury conducts investigations into county operations and issues of public concern. For the 2025–2026 term, the Jury reviewed twenty years of past reports to identify entities and topics not recently examined. Limited by a one-year term, the Jury focuses on a select number of issues to ensure thorough and meaningful review.

The Jury also reviews citizen complaints, although not every complaint results in a formal investigation. Complaints may be declined if they fall outside the Jury’s authority, lack sufficient information, involve confidential or ongoing legal matters, concern policy disagreements rather than potential inefficiency, address isolated issues without broader public impact, or have been previously investigated. Prioritization is necessary due to the Jury’s limited term and available resources.

Any citizen can file a complaint with the Plumas County Civil Grand Jury by completing a citizen form available at the County’s website: **Grand Jury | Plumas County, CA** (<https://www.plumascounty.us/216/Grand-Jury>) and mailing to the PCCGJ at:

Plumas County Civil Grand Jury
PO Box 784
Quincy, CA 95971

To inquire about serving as a Civil Grand Juror, call the Plumas County Superior Court at (530) 283-6016.

2025-2026 CIVIL GRAND JURORS

Leslie Elliott <i>(Foreperson, Secretary)</i>	<i>Blairsden</i>	Erica Bryant	<i>East Quincy</i>
Phillip Schneider <i>(Foreperson Pro Tem)</i>	<i>Cromberg</i>	Emanuel DaSilva	<i>Lake Almanor</i>
Janis Davies <i>(Parliamentarian)</i>	<i>Lake Almanor</i>	Cynthia Lusk	<i>Spring Garden</i>
Dana Bourgoine	<i>Portola</i>	Kathryn Osher	<i>Crescent Mills</i>
		Derek Twitchell	<i>Lake Almanor</i>
		Kodie Vielbig	<i>Quincy</i>
		Bil Yahner	<i>Greenville</i>