



**SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF MERCED**

www.merced.courts.ca.gov

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Local Merced Residents Needed to Serve on the Civil Grand Jury

Merced, California – The Merced Superior Court needs your help. The court strongly encourages you to apply to serve on the Grand Jury this year. The deadline is fast approaching. A new 19-member Grand Jury will be empaneled for a one-year term that begins July 1, 2021 and ends June 30, 2022.

What are the qualifications needed to serve? 1) You must be at least 18 years old, 2) US Citizen, 3) resident of Merced County for at least one year, 4) Sufficient knowledge of English, 5) In possession of sound judgment, good character, and a sense of fairness.

What does the Grand Jury do? The primary function of the grand jury is to act as an ombudsman, investigate and issue reports about local government agencies that include county and city government, jails, special districts, and school districts. The grand jury writes a final report that includes its findings and recommendations. The report is shared with the public.

Selection of the 19-member Grand Jury and four alternates is achieved by a random drawing of the top 25 to 30 candidates. Grand jurors must be available at least 20 hours per month.

Any qualified residents interested in serving on the Civil Grand Jury may contact the court by calling the Executive Assistant's at 725-4172 or go on line at www.mercedcourt.org to download the application. The application is also available on the Merced county website at www.co.merced.ca.us. The deadline to apply is Friday, May 14, 2021.