Superior Court of California
County of Santa Clara

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Court Seeks Candidates for Public Watchdog Agency

Application Extension for the 2016-17 Civil Grand Jury panel

SAN JOSE, Calif. (March 29, 2016): Presiding Judge, Hon. Risë Jones Pichon, has announced that the Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara has extended the application period for the recruitment of 2016-17 Civil Grand Jury.

The Civil Grand Jury, an arm of the Superior Court, is a part of the Judicial Branch of government. It serves as the County's civil watchdog agency and may examine all aspects of the County and city governments, special districts, and school districts. It is authorized to inspect and audit books, records, and financial expenditures to ensure accountability of public funds. The Grand Jury may also inspect jails and juvenile detention facilities

Applicants must be 18 years of age or older, United States citizens, and residents of Santa Clara County. Service on the Civil Grand Jury does require a significant time commitment—a minimum of 20-25 hours per week, or as determined by the Grand Jury. Candidates must be willing to dedicate this year of service to keep careful watch over various aspects of County government, and the one-year term of the 2016-17 panel will begin on June 23, 2016.

"It's vital that those who are charged with this incredible responsibility reflect the tremendous diversity of Santa Clara County," said Presiding Judge Pichon. "First and foremost we're looking for civic mindedness, strong ethics, and courage, but we also need a mixed set of skills and abilities in our jurors so that we can assemble the deep reservoir of knowledge necessary in this broad oversight role."

Persons interested in applying may obtain an application online at www.scscourt.org under "Civil Grand Jury." Questions about the Grand Jury may be directed to CGJ@scscourt.org or by contacting Tamara Davis, deputy manager of Jury Services, at 408-882-2721.

The deadline to submit applications is Friday, April 15, 2016.

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