

June 25, 2015

Wordcount: 312

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Foreman Robert Stewart

Tel: 805/477-1600

Email: Robert.Stewart@ventura.org

Grand Jury's Consolidated Annual Report Available Online

The *Consolidated Annual Report of the 2014-2015 Ventura County Grand Jury* is now available online at <http://www.ventura.org/grand-jury>. The consolidated report contains results of 12 investigations into policies, processes and practices of various county or city governmental agencies, boards or departments. Each investigation's methods, findings and recommendations are thoroughly explained, and references and a glossary are provided.

The 12 investigative reports contained in this year's consolidated report are:

- Elections and Polling Place Observations (released March 5, 2015)
- Ventura County Green Procurement Policy (released March 25, 2015)
- City of Oxnard and Its Adjoining Agricultural and Business Water Resources (released April 1, 2015)
- Port Hueneme Police Department Public Records Request Process (released April 23, 2015)
- County Responsibility for Sidewalks (released June 1, 2015)
- Countywide Bicycle Safety (released June 1, 2015)
- Detention Facilities and Related Law Enforcement Issues (released June 1, 2015)
- Panhandling and Charity Soliciting in the City of Thousand Oaks (released June 2, 2015)
- County Project Management – A Case Study (released June 4, 2015)
- Foster Care and Adoption Process in Ventura County (released June 5, 2015)
- Ventura County Electronic Health Record Implementation Risks (released June 11, 2015)
- Ventura County Hiring Processes (released June 12, 2015)

(more)

Elected public officials and boards that are subjects of a grand jury report are legally required to respond in writing to specified aspects of the report within 60 and 90 days respectively. As they are received, these responses will be posted on the grand jury website following each report.

The civil grand jury is an independent investigative body of 19 volunteer citizens charged with civil oversight of county and city governments, special districts, governing boards, school districts, health agencies and detention facilities, among other bodies. It attempts to determine if government is serving the best interests of Ventura County's residents by investigating the validity of public complaints alleging government mismanagement or inefficiencies. The civil grand jury is completely separate from criminal grand juries.

In addition to the past year's reports, the grand jury's website contains detailed information about the structure and activities of the grand jury, a public complaint form, an application to become a grand juror and previous years' reports and responses going back to 1995.

#

[Cover photo of annual report attached in separate file.]