## **TULARE COUNTY**

# **CIVIL GRAND JURY QUESTIONNAIRE 2021-2022**

2021-2022

## **CIVIL GRAND JURY**

This jury service differs from jury duty as a trial juror. Your participation is voluntary and it is considered to be a privilege to be chosen to serve on the Civil Grand Jury.

The Civil Grand Jury is composed of 19 active panel members who meet, form committees, investigate and report on the operations, accounts and records of the officers, departments and functions of the county. Service on the panel is from July 1 through June 30 and requires approximately 10 - 12 hours per week during the fiscal year. **FOR 2021 – 2022 TERM, THE TERM HAS BEEN MODIFIED DUE TO COVID-19. THE TERM WILL BE: 8-17-2021 – 6-30-2022** 

Please complete the questionnaire and return it to Room 303, Visalia Courthouse. This questionnaire will assist the Judges of the Superior Court in compiling a list of nominees, which fairly represents a cross-section of our community. Your personal information is confidential and will only be used by the Judges of the Superior Court to assure that the group nominated represents various age groups, economic and social backgrounds. Your application will still be considered even though you may leave some of the questions unanswered.

If there is anything you would like us to know feel free to attach additional information, if necessary.

Your prompt attention to the completion and return of the questionnaire will be greatly appreciated.

Any questions, please call: (559) 730-5000 ext. 1359 Fax application to: (559) 737-4290 Email application to: <u>administration@tulare.courts.ca.gov</u> Court's website is: <u>www.tularesuperiorcourt.ca.gov</u>

#### **DUTIES OF THE CIVIL GRAND JURY**

Civil Grand Jurors serve a one (1) year term from July 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup>. The jury panel consists of nineteen (19) persons who are assigned to various committees plus three (3) alternates. It is understood that Civil Grand Jurors may be absent for reasonable periods for vacations. During your term as a Civil Grand Juror you would be excused from trial jury service in the State Courts.

The Civil Grand Jury is a time-honored component of our Anglo-American legal system. Civil Grand Jurors are selected citizens of the county who are expected to exercise sound judgment in reviewing and commenting upon the actions of governmental agencies.

Essentially, the Civil Grand Jury operates as an investigative agency performing a two-fold function. First, the Civil Grand Jury has powers and duties with respect to the oversight of public offices, officers, and transactions. Designated State and all County and special District agencies that serve Tulare County are routinely reviewed and critiqued by the Civil Grand Jury in its annual and interim reports.

Secondly, the Civil Grand Jury has powers and duties with respect to inquiry into possible public offenses, misconduct in office by public officers and determining whether to return indictments charging the commission of felonies.

The Tulare County Civil Grand Jury selection process will be conducted May - June annually. The process involves completing this questionnaire and being interviewed by the designee of the Presiding Judge of the Tulare County Superior Courts. After selection, the designee of the Presiding Judge will further instruct jurors of their duties. Throughout its term, the Civil Grand Jury may request advice on legal matters from the District Attorney and County Counsel.

## 2021-2022

## TULARE COUNTY CIVIL GRAND JURY QUESTIONNAIRE

# Pursuant to California Penal Code section 893, the following questions must be answered:

**STATUTORY QUALIFICATIONS:** (Place a check in the appropriate box)

🗌 No	□ Yes	Are you a citizen of the United States?						
🗌 No	□ Yes	Are you eighteen years of age or older?						
🗆 No	□ Yes	Have been a resident of Tulare County for at least one year prior to the date of this application?						
🗌 No	□ Yes	re you in possession of your natural faculties? Are you of ordinary intelligence and sound judgment and fair character?						
🗌 No	□ Yes	Do you possess a sufficient knowledge of the English language?						
STATUTORY DISQUALIFICATIONS: (Place a check in the appropriate box):								
🗌 No	□ Yes	Are you serving as a trial juror in any court of this State? If Yes, County						
□ No	□ Yes	Have you been discharged as a grand juror in any court of this State within one year prior to the date of this application? If Yes, County						
🗌 No	□ Yes	Have you ever been convicted of malfeasance in office or any felony or other high crime?						
🗌 No	□ Yes	Are you currently serving as an elected public official?						

(initial here) I am interested in serving on the Tulare County Civil Grand Jury for the fiscal year 2021-2022 and I understand the time commitment required

If you answered **NO** to any **STATUTORY QUALIFICATIONS** or you answered **YES** to any **STATUTORY DISQUALIFICATIONS**, you do not qualify. There is no need to continue or to return the questionnaire.

IF QUALIFIED, please continue and complete the questionnaire, returning it to Court Administration - Rm 303

**CALIFORNIA RULES OF COURT,** Rule 10.625, regarding certain demographic data relating to regular grand jurors. {Please check the appropriate box to the following}

(A)	Age range, please check the appropriate box: $\Box$ 18-25	□ 26-34	□ 35-44	□ 45-54	□ 55-64	□ 65-74
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 $\Box$  75 and over (B) Gender:  $\Box$  Male  $\Box$  Female

(C) Please indicate your ethnic origin by **circling one** of the following (may select more than one):

□ American Indian or Alaska Native □ Asian □ Black or African American □ Hispanic/Latino

□ Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander □ White □ Other (please specify)\_\_\_\_\_

 $\hfill\square$  Decline to Answer

Place of Residence by Supervisorial District: 
□ District 1 □ District 2 □ District 3 □ District 4 □ District 5

THIS QUESTIONNAIRE IS TO ASSIST THE JUDGES OF THE SUPERIOR COURT IN COMPLETING A LIST OF NOMINEES WHICH FAIRLY REPRESENTS A CROSS-SECTION OF OUR COMMUNITY. SOME OF THE QUESTIONS THAT MAY SEEM PERSONAL ARE NECESSARY IN ORDER TO ASSURE THE JUDGES THAT THE GROUP THEY NOMINATE, FROM WHICH THE FINAL NAMES WILL BE DRAWN, REPRESENTS VARIOUS AGE GROUPS, ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND ETHNIC BACKGOUNDS.

#### PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

1.	Full Name:	Date	Date of Birth:					
	(First) (Middle)	(Last)						
2.	Address (Phys.):	City:	Zip +4:					
	Address (Mail):	City:	Zip +4:					
	Residence Phone: ( )	Business Phone: ( )						
	Cell Phone: ( )	Fax Number: ( )						
	Email Address:							
3.	Occupation:							
	Employer:							
	If retired, previous occupation							
4.	Can you afford the time required to be a Civil Grand Juror (approximately 20 hours per week)?							
	If not, briefly state why not:							
5.	Do you have any physical or mental condition which would interfere with your ability to function as a Civil Grand							
	Juror? If yes, explain briefly							
		urt need to provide to accommodate you						
6.	Education (Circle highest grade completed): 6 (or less) 7 8 9 10 11 12 College: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7							
	Name of schools attended and degree	es or certification attained:						
7.	Clubs or organizations: List any civic, servi	ice organizations or any volunteer work	to which you belong.					
8.	Spouse / Domestic Partner Name:							
	Occupation:							
	If retired, list previous occupation you retired	d from						
	Employer:							
9.	Are you or any immediate family member a If yes, explain:							
10	). Are you currently involved in any litigation	n (law suits) in this county?						

11. Are you or any of your immediate family members employed by the County of Tulare or any school district within the county?

If yes, where?

- 12. Do you have any significant problems reading or understanding the English Language?
- 13. Do you have any suggestions, comments or other matters you would like to bring to the judges attention in connection with your application?
- 14. Please tell us about any special skills or abilities that you have which the judges should know about in considering your application?

15. Please tell us why you are interested in serving on the Tulare County Civil Grand Jury. (Please attach additional

pages as needed)

16. Describe any background experience or skills you have which would be helpful to grand jury service (i.e., computer skills, leadership skills, or experience writing/editing reports, working in groups, or conducting investigations or interviews.)

Mail to: Attention: Civil Grand Jury Tulare County Superior Court 221 S. Mooney Blvd., Room 303 Visalia, CA 93291

Or Fax to: (559) 737-4290

Or email to: <u>administration@tulare.courts.ca.gov</u>

**NOTE**: Applicants for nomination as a member of the Tulare County Civil Grand Jury are subject to investigation by an appropriate law enforcement agency as to the statutory qualifications for service and the applicant's ability and suitability for service.

In support of my application for selection as a member of the Tulare County Civil Grand Jury, I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing information is true and correct.

Signed:\_\_\_\_\_

Date: