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## **Qualifications**

Prospective grand jurors must possess the following qualifications (California Penal Code Section 893):

- Applicant is a citizen of the United States of the age of 18 years or older who shall have been a resident of the state and of the county or city and county for one year immediately before being selected and returned;
- Applicant is in possession of his natural faculties, of ordinary intelligence, of sound judgment, and of fair character;
- Applicant is possessed of sufficient knowledge of the English language.

A person is not competent to serve as a grand juror if any of the following apply:

- The person is serving as a trial juror in any California court;
- Have been convicted of a felony;
- Have been discharged as a grand juror in any court of this state within one year;
- The person has been convicted of malfeasance in office or any felony or other high crime;
- The person is serving as an elected public officer.

Desirable qualifications for a grand juror include the following:

- Have computer and Internet communication skills;
- Be in good health;
- Be open-minded with concern for the views of others;
- Have the ability to work with others;
- Have genuine interest in community affairs;
- Have investigative skills and an ability to write reports.

## **Juror Selection**

In the spring of each year, the Presiding Judge selects residents at random from the list of applicants. Applicants should expect that a criminal records check would be conducted. Applications are reviewed and an interview is scheduled with the Presiding Judge, the foreperson of the outgoing grand jury, and perhaps the Presiding Judge's assistant.

After the interview process, prospective applicants are requested to appear for the final selection, held in a Placer County Superior Court courtroom. At this time, with outgoing grand jurors in attendance, the court clerk draws 19 names randomly. Another 10 names are drawn and ranked to form a list of alternate jurors. The Presiding Superior Court Judge then swears in the new 19 grand jury members and gives them a description of their duties and responsibilities. The jurors begin a one-year term on July 1.