

## NEWS RELEASE

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SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF NAPA 825 Brown Street Napa, CA 94559 www.napa.courts.ca.gov

707-299-1100

Scott R.L. Young Presiding Judge

Robert E. Fleshman Court Executive Officer

## NAPA COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT CONVENES NEW CIVIL GRAND JURY, STREAMLINES COMPLAINT PROCESS

NAPA, CA – A total of 19 Napa County residents have been empaneled as the newest members of the Napa County Civil Grand Jury. An additional five individuals were selected as alternates. This grand jury's term runs from July 2025 through June 2026.

## **Role of the Civil Grand Jury**

The grand jury is authorized by the state constitution. The grand jury is responsible for investigating and reporting on the operations, accounts, and records of local government officers and agencies. Grand Jurors also have the power to investigate citizen complaints about local government.

"Nineteen citizens devoting their time and talents to review local government operations is in the highest traditions of our democracy," said Robert Van Der Velde, this year's foreperson. "Grand Jury reports shine an independent light on important local issues," he added.

## **New Streamlined Complaint Process**

Though just empaneled, this grand jury has already made the citizen complaint process easier to use. Previously, complaints were filled out on a printed form and mailed or emailed to the grand jury. The new online form streamlines that process by eliminating the redundancy of printing and sending via the new digital format. The new online form is already available and complements forms available in <a href="English">English</a> and Spanish.

For grand jury reports and more information, visit the grand jury's webpage.

Other questions may be directed to the Napa County Superior Court Executive Office at 707-299-1110 or by email at grand.jury@napa.courts.ca.gov.