



The Shasta County Grand Jury

County residents
working together
to improve local
government

The History of Grand Juries

- Over 900 years of legal tradition
- Established in Massachusetts in 1635
- Required by California Constitution



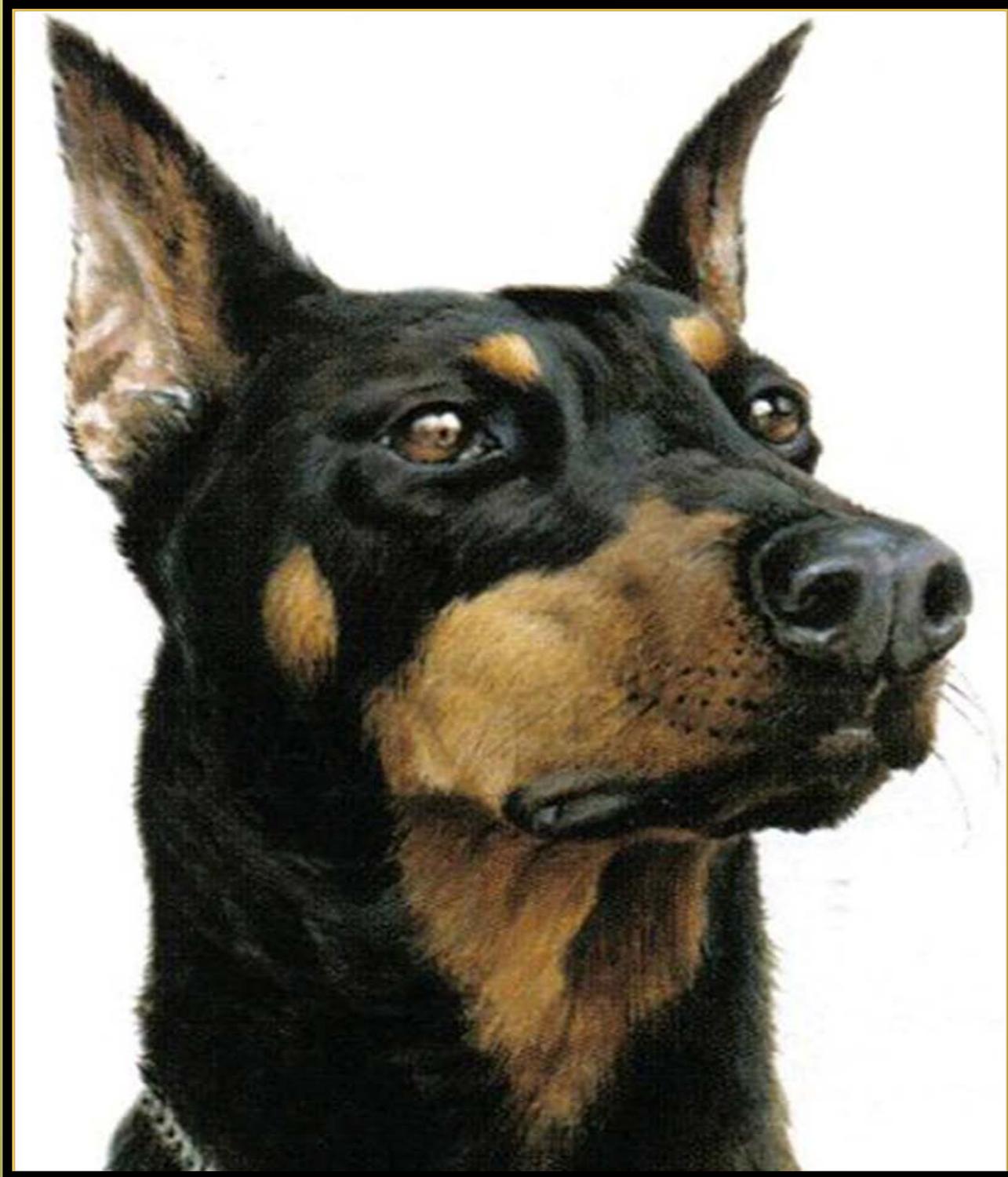
Civil vs. Criminal Grand Juries

- Local, state and federal grand juries used for criminal indictments
- Regular (or civil) grand juries found only in California and Nevada



What Are the Functions of the Grand Jury in California?

- Criminal indictments
- Accusations against public officials
- Oversight of local government



**Grand Jurors
are the
watchdogs that
ensure our local
governments
conduct
business in our
best interests**

What Does the Grand Jury Do?

Examines how local government conducts business:

- Determines if it is functioning legally
- Determines if services are provided effectively and efficiently
- Recommends actions to solve problems and improve services

Grand Jury Work Involves:



INSPECTING
INVESTIGATING
INTERVIEWING

REPORTING



What Does the Grand Jury Investigate?

- Any local government agency or department
- Detention facilities
- Matters of interest to the community
- Citizen complaints about local government

What is Local Government?

- County functions and departments





City functions and departments



Special districts and other local agencies, including school districts

**Detention facilities
(inspections
conducted each
year)**



After an investigation, a report may be issued to:

- The agency
- The governing body
- The public



**Contains Findings and
Recommendations**

How does the work get done?

In committees such as:

Audit and Finance

Counties

Cities

Local Districts

Criminal Justice

Editorial

Continuity



Must Maintain Confidentiality

- Protects whistleblowers and others who provide information
- Members may not discuss anything not released in final report – for life



How is the Grand Jury Chosen in Shasta County?



Candidates must answer “Yes” to the following questions:

Are you a US citizen?

Have you lived in Shasta County for the past year?

Are you eighteen years or older?

Can you read and write English?

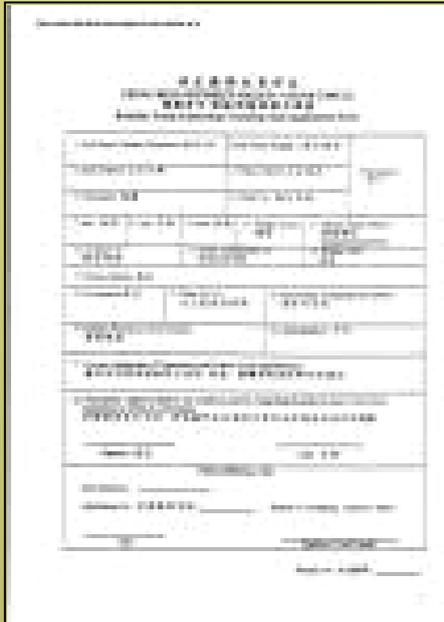
Have you never been convicted of a felony?

Can you serve 10 – 20 hours a week for one year?

Can you maintain confidentiality?

Do you have good judgment?

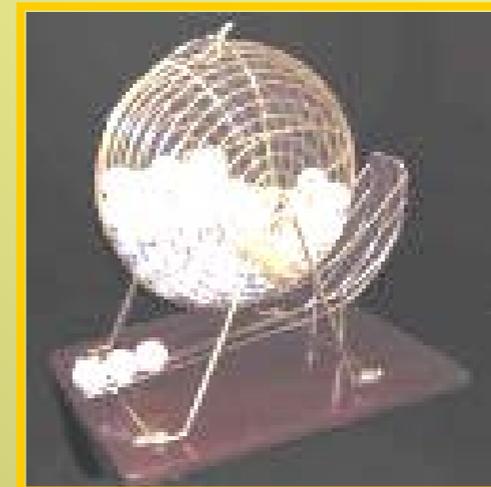
How are Grand Jurors Selected?



The image shows a sample application form for Grand Juror selection. The form is titled "APPLICATION FOR GRAND JUROR" and includes fields for name, address, phone number, and a signature line. It also has a section for "REMARKS" and a "DATE" field.

After completing an application, screening interviews are conducted.

Eligible candidates gather in late June or early July and names are drawn from a hopper.



The new jurors are sworn in and the others become alternates.

19 Citizens



Working as a Group

**An opportunity to learn more
about your community –
and make a difference**



**If you don't ask the tough
questions....**



Who will?



Get more information
about
The Shasta County Grand Jury
at

www.shastacountygrandjury.org