



NEWS RELEASE

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA • COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
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RETIRED SCIENTIST HEADS NEW GRAND JURY

North Park resident David R. Higgins has been selected to lead the 2006-2007 San Diego County Grand Jury. Higgins and 18 other Grand Jurors will begin service on July 1st. Higgins, 48, is a retired scientist whose most recent position was as Executive Vice President of Operations for Bio-Medica. This is the first time Higgins has served on a jury, "I chose to be a Grand Jury member because I want to give back to the community, the work will be intellectually challenging and interesting, and I am available for the significant commitment of time required to be on this jury."

Higgins approaches this job with great respect for the Grand Jury and the "citizen watchdog" role it plays in government, "Every public official we have heard from in the past couple of weeks has indicated their support for the role the Grand Jury can play in improving our community. The California Constitution provides for a group of 19 citizens of the County to be brought together and dedicate a year of full-time service looking into the workings of government. In this age of overworked and understaffed agencies, I hope we can provide a useful oversight service. In that respect we are truly here to help."

The new Grand Jurors were drawn from a field of 124 residents. The names and occupations of the selected Grand Jurors are listed as follows:

2006/2007 SAN DIEGO COUNTY GRAND JURY

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>OCCUPATION</u>
Meredith L. Avery	5	Fallbrook	Semi-Retired Chef
Douglas L. Bekkedahl	1	San Diego	Retired Business Owner & Corporate Travel Agent
Pamela Burroughs	2	San Diego	Supervisory Credentialing Specialist (Ret.)

(More)

Donald L. Fagan	5	Fallbrook	Retired Aerospace Industry
Thomas A. Gapen	2	El Cajon	Retired Office Manager
William L. Hackler	3	Solana Beach	Retired President Private Industry
David R. Higgins	4	San Diego	Retired Scientist
Duane A. Leach	1	Imperial Beach	Retired Federal Civil Service
Helen C. Masso	2	El Cajon	Retired Investigative Specialist II
Frances A. Moan	1	San Diego	Semi-Retired Real Estate Broker
Carol Ney	4	San Diego	Retired Medical Technologist
David H.R. Pain	4	San Diego	Retired Attorney
John F. Pilch	3	San Diego	Retired Insurance Claims/Litigation Mgt.
Erick G. Rauch	1	Imperial Beach	Retired Law Enforcement
Oliver B. Sholders	5	San Marcos	Retired Civil Engineer
Richard H. Strait	3	Escondido	Retired Federal Law Enforcement
Lillian A. Wagner	4	San Diego	Retired Public Relations Writer and Planner
Darrell D. Weaver	3	San Diego	Retired Aerospace Engineer
Leon J. West	5	Oceanside	Retired Computer Program Specialist

During their term of service, the Grand Jurors will review citizen complaints and will carry out the Civil Grand Jury's traditional role as a "government watchdog."

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