

## COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION DECLARING FEBRUARY 2016 AS "GRAND JURY AWARENESS MONTH" IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

**WHEREAS,** the Civil Grand Jury consists of a panel of 19 citizens which serves the citizens of the County of Santa Barbara for a one-year period after selection; and

WHEREAS, the individual Grand Jurors are selected from a list of volunteer applicants who have been screened and qualified by a panel overseen by the presiding judge of the Superior Court, with final selection of the 19 obtained by random drawing; and

WHEREAS, the jurisdiction of the Grand Jury extends to all activities of local government within the geographic limits of Santa Barbara County, including public/private transactions; and

WHEREAS, the Grand Jury is granted subpoena powers that extend to records, persons & entities, and parallel powers to undertake independent investigations and issue reports detailing the results of these investigations; and to function as a completely independent, autonomous body; and

WHEREAS, the primary function of the Grand Jury is to provide independent oversight into the efficiency, effectiveness, honesty and impartiality of government; and

WHEREAS, the Grand Jury in a large measure relies upon public awareness and responsiveness of the public to its reports which set forth its findings and recommendations; and

WHEREAS, it is believed that public awareness of the Grand Jury's function and purpose can be furthered by governmental declarations of awareness.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED**, that the County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors does hereby proclaim February 2016 as "Grand Jury Awareness Month" in order for all citizens to become better acquainted with the purpose of the Grand Jury, to give attention to the Grand Jury's reports, and to encourage public participation in the Grand Jury process.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California, this 9<sup>th</sup> day of February 2016 by unanimous vote of all members present.

SEAL

Supervisor - 1st District

Supervisor - 2nd District

Supervisor - 3rd District

Supervisor - 4th District

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ATTEST: Mondays al