

Board of Supervisors of Contra Costa County, California

**IN THE MATTER OF RECOGNIZING MARCH 2016 AS
GRAND JURY MONTH IN CONTRA COSTA COUNTY**

RESOLUTION NO. 2016/62

WHEREAS, the Grand Jury system originated in England in the 12th century, it immigrated to the colonies and later moved westward to California; and

WHEREAS, while the primary role of the inquest in early England was as a means of apprehending and punishing criminals, records from the Grand Inquest state, "The inquest was required to present those whose duty was to keep in repair bridges, causeways and highways, for neglect of duty, to inquire into defects of goals and the nature thereof, who ought to repair them and who was responsible for any escapes which had occurred..."; and

WHEREAS, starting with what is now its indictment function, the criminal grand jury as we know it today slowly took on its civil, or "watchdog" responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, 600 years later, grand juries are still investigating agencies responsible for infrastructure and inquiring into jails; and

WHEREAS, the codification of grand jury law in California came about 1872 with the adoption of the Penal Code, where most all grand jury law resides; and

WHEREAS, in 1880, the grand jury was "authorized to investigate county governments, required to be impaneled annually to function specifically as watchdogs over county governments"; and

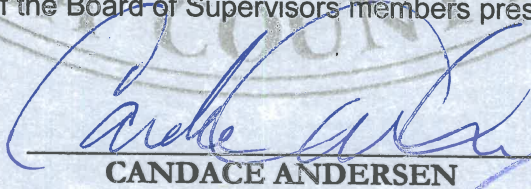
WHEREAS, throughout the entire history of California as a state, grand juries have played an important role as the most independent of any body to provide unbiased review of local government operations, seeking more efficient and effective means of utilizing the taxpayer dollar.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of Contra Costa County does hereby proclaim March, 2016 as

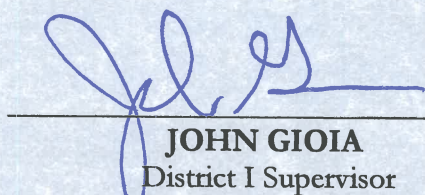
Grand Jury Month

in Contra Costa County and recognize the Contra Costa County Grand Jury for the valuable role it serves in our democratic system of government.

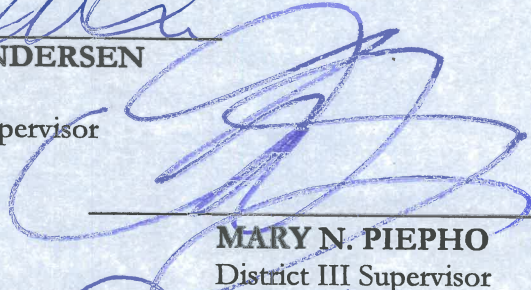
PASSED by a unanimous vote of the Board of Supervisors members present this 8th day of March, 2016.

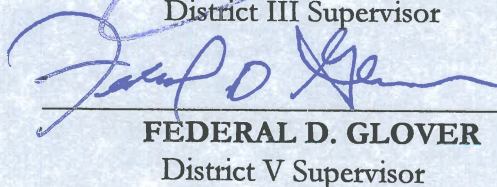

CANDACE ANDERSEN

Chair,
District II Supervisor


JOHN GIOIA
District I Supervisor


KAREN MITCHOFF
District IV Supervisor


MARY N. PIEPHO
District III Supervisor


FEDERAL D. GLOVER
District V Supervisor



I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown:

ATTESTED: March 8, 2016

DAVID TWA, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors and County Administrator

By Stephanie Wells, Deputy