

## MARCH-APRIL 2013 GRAND JURY REPORT

We, the Grand Jury for Christian County during the March-April 2013 term, would like to express our sincere thanks to the law enforcement officers, investigators and other officials who do such a good job serving Christian County. We were especially impressed with the manner in which they are handling matters involving child support, gun control, the enforcement of drug laws and fraudulently obtaining state benefits.

It was interesting how diverse our Grand Jury was, but how each member had a great deal of input into the decisions that we were asked to make. We started this experience with little knowledge about criminal laws; however, we all leave with a much better understanding, including our ability to effectively dismiss a case, or return a "No True Bill" on some charges. It is good to know that such an independent body is allowed to make this decision, so that one person is not given total discretion.

We would like to offer special recognition to Lindsey Adams, Assistant County Attorney, for his efforts in collecting child support and putting the kids first. Mr. Adams and all of his associates go that extra mile to collect the monies due to custodial parents or guardians of children throughout our county.

Another special thank you is extended to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives ["ATF"] for their efforts in keeping guns out of the hands of criminals. We have learned that they go to great lengths and are very focused on details when they set up a sting. We appreciate their efforts and the difference they are making in our community.

However, we would like to express our concern over the fact that our officers are required to spend so much time fighting the horrible drug scourge in Christian County. Unfortunately, there are many unsolved murder cases that require the attention of law enforcement officials as well. We hope that they continue to address all of the pressing criminal matters, while taking time to focus on solving cold cases as well.

In closing, we would like to thank Judge Self, Judge Atkins, Lynn Pryor, Michael Cotthoff, Tara Bozell and all of the staff at the Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney, for being patient with us. We enjoyed our time on the Grand Jury, but the pay is not nearly sufficient given the importance of the tasks before each Grand Jury. We would encourage our legislature to take a serious look at increasing juror pay in the near future. Thanks to them all in advance.

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Foreperson

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Date