

JANUARY – FEBRUARY 2010 GRAND JURY REPORT

The Christian County Grand Jury of January - February of 2010 would first like to say how grateful we are for a law enforcement team that works so diligently to establish a safer community for everyone. We know their jobs are very intense, life threatening, time consuming and challenging, to say the least. We would like to take this opportunity, as representatives of our city and county, to let them know that they are appreciated.

Throughout our term as Grand Jurors, we have been very shocked at the amount of crime and drugs in Hopkinsville and Christian County. We learned about the significant amount of criminal gang activity and other violent crimes, and we greatly appreciate the efforts and attention that our officers give these issues each and every day. We also ask our legislators and other elected officials to provide these officers with the laws and resources that they need to effectively and efficiently perform their duties in providing our community with much-needed protection.

We would also like to thank Lynn Pryor and the staff at the Commonwealth Attorney's Office for assisting the Grand Jury and making sure our term of service ran smoothly and without confusion. We also want to thank them for their hospitality in providing anything they could to make serving on the Grand Jury as pleasant as possible. The staff and the accommodations at the Christian County Justice Center have also been extremely nice.

The only suggestion we have in making service on the Grand Jury experience a more enjoyable experience would be to require service of only one month, instead of two, since the Court has a new jury orientation every month. This would prevent Grand Jurors from being displaced from their other obligations for such a long period. Jurors would also enjoy their service more, and be more willing to serve on a jury, if the juror pay of \$12.50 a day was increased. Most jurors make more money than that per hour, and this Grand Jury served no less than four hours on any given day.

Overall, serving on the Grand Jury was a very enjoyable learning experience. As a whole, we all gained a great deal of knowledge from our service on the Grand Jury, and we are thankful to have had the experience.

Foreperson
January-February 2010 Grand Jury