

March-April 2009 Grand Jury Report

We, the members of the March-April 2009 session of the Grand Jury would like to take this opportunity to issue a report on our activities.

As part of our report, we would like to thank the Honorable Judge John Atkins, the many witnesses, and the police officers, who were patient with us during our questions and deliberations. We also would like to thank Commonwealth Attorney Lynn Pryor and her staff for their professionalism while preparing, presenting, and answering our questions about the many cases that were before us.

We were given the opportunity to deliberate on many different cases, to include child abuse, robbery, burglary, and many drug charges. As members of the Grand Jury and as members of the community, we were greatly concerned about the toll that repeat drug offenders are having on our community and particularly on the children who are forced to live and survive in a drug-infested society. We believe, after considerable deliberation, that repeat drug offenders should face stiffer penalties than are imposed by the law at this time, and that legislators take action in this direction soon. We would also encourage law enforcement officers to continue in their valiant efforts to stem the flow of drug traffic and bring those who manufacture, sell, and use these illegal substances to justice.

During our term of service, the Grand Jury was also presented with approximately 30 flagrant non-support cases. We would like to commend the County Attorney's office for their renewed efforts in making sure that the children of the community receive the resources needed for their care and well-being.

We, the Grand Jury, would hope that in concluding our service, we have served Christian County to the best of our ability and made decisions that will have a positive impact for the community.

Foreperson