

## Grand Jury Report for July and August 2009

We, as the July-August 2009 Grand Jury, want to express what an honor and a pleasure it has been to serve as a member of the Christian County Grand Jury. We have all had an input into this report. First and foremost, we want to thank our Commonwealth's Attorney Lynn Pryor for her diligent and dedicated hard work of providing us with all of the evidence needed and answers to all of our questions. Also, thanks to Judge Atkins for being patient with us and to all of the support staff. But a special thanks goes to each of the members of the Hopkinsville Police Department, Oak Grove Police Department, Kentucky State Police, and the Christian County Sheriff's Department for their dedication, and many hours of hard work on our city and county streets and roads.

This group, as a whole, was amazed at how many drugs are on our streets. Many of the cases we saw were somehow involved with or associated with drugs. One issue that we feel is very important is providing better drug rehabilitation and care to the many repeat drug offenders?

Also, we were overwhelmed to learn of the amount of gang activity within our city limits. The presentation on gang activity within our county made the problem very apparent to each of us, and we encourage our city, county and state officials to provide more support & legal backing to our police departments and sheriff's departments. We must have gang laws in place to prevent Christian County from becoming a breeding ground for criminal gang activity. It has also occurred to us that we as a city need to do more. If we stand up, and become involved we, the members of this community, can make a change.

As the Foreman of the Jury, I personally would like to echo the sentiments of each of the jurors. We as a community need to stand up and be heard; this is our community. I plan on attending City Council meetings and standing up for the members of our police departments and sheriff's departments for needed equipment and support, but most of all standing up for our community.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

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Grand Jury Foreman, William Henry Walker