

**GRAND JURY REPORT**

**JULY - AUGUST 2015**

We, the members of July-August 2015 Grand Jury, issue this report about our experience of serving on the Christian County Grand Jury. We felt this was our privilege and civic responsibility, and we readily accepted and took our role as grand jurors seriously.

Over the past two months, we have gained so much knowledge regarding the way in which our judicial system works. This was such a great learning experience for us. We heard an enormous amount of cases involving everything, including murder, assault, trafficking in drugs while armed, theft, home invasions, flagrant non-support, and child sexual abuse/pornography cases, just to name a few.

Many of the defendants we deliberated on were repeat offender cases, and, as citizens of this community, this was very alarming to us. We believe that stricter laws need to be in place to better protect our community from the criminal acts of repeat offenders.

Our officers here in Hopkinsville take risks daily, as they go out to be proactive and help protect and serve our community. Therefore, we feel stricter laws need to be in place to better protect our officers, as well as applying the same laws for K-9 officers. In particular, we feel that the assault of a K-9 officer should be treated as a felony, just as if their human partner were assaulted.

Lastly, the members of the grand jury feel that the pay rate is very insufficient and needs to be addressed by the states hardship. A lot of time is taken away from our personal lives, our children, families and professional jobs; therefore, we ask that the pay be reviewed to accommodate our daily lives.

It is been our great pleasure to serve on the grand jury for the July-August 2015 session and we would like to thank our Commonwealth's Attorney Lynn Pryor and all of her staff for allowing us to work with them. We know that you all carry out a job that takes day and night to do. We are forever grateful for you all and all you do in protecting and serving our community as well.

8-28-2015

Date

James Haynes

Foreperson