

Christian County Grand Jury Report  
May – June 2016

We, the members of the May – June 2016 Grand Jury would like to express our gratitude to Commonwealth's Attorney, Lynn Pryor, her associates and staff and Judge John Adkins for making our term on the Christian County Grand Jury such a positive, enlightening, and enjoyable experience. The overwhelming majority of our members were new to jury service and in the midst of our endless questions, we were treated with the utmost patience, respect and kindness.

First, we would like to say what a privilege it was to be chosen to participate for jury service. As jurors, we had the opportunity to witness first-hand how our justice system works and were impressed by the professionalism, dedication and diligence of our state and local police officers and agency officials. They work tirelessly to ensure that our community is safe and our laws enforced.

During our term, Christian County Clerk, Mike Kem, reviewed the May 2016 Primary Elections and noted that no irregularities were reported. He explained the election process to us and expressed concerns regarding the shortage of poll workers available to work the polling stations. We would like to encourage all citizens to, not only participate in the voting process, but consider contacting Mr. Kem to become a poll worker.

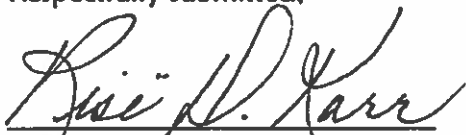
Many of our cases involved drug trafficking and persistent felony offenders. It was disheartening to learn of the significant incidents of drug activity in our community and even more alarming was the number of repeat offenders that are returned to our neighborhoods after serving brief terms for prior felony offenses. Our legislatures need to continue to find legal avenues to thwart the influx of illegal drugs into our country and our courts need to impose stricter jail terms for those individuals who continuously display a complete disregard for the law.

The most disturbing cases we faced involved child abuse and neglect. These defenseless children should receive our ultimate protection, and it is our collective desire that harsher punishments be established for crimes against children.

Finally, we would like to request that consideration be made to implement legislation requiring all employers to fully reimburse employees for jury service. Jurors should not incur a financial hardship in order to serve.

Overall, our service on the Grand Jury has been a distinct honor. We will all forever be changed by this "eye-opening" experience.

Respectfully submitted,



Rise D. Karr, Foreperson

6-24-16

Date