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# GRAND JURY REPORT

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Christian County, November-December 2017

We, the members of the grand jury, would like to thank Commonwealth Attorney Lynn Pryor and her entire staff for the dedicated work they put in to keep the justice system in Christian County running. It is a much more daunting task than we could have imagined, and we have a deeper appreciation for the administrative side of the system following our service.

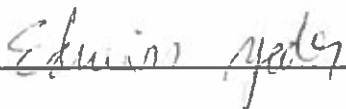
Serving on the grand jury has been an eye-opening experience in many ways. Perhaps most importantly, it has aided in our understanding of the justice system, and it has helped us to comprehend how truly tirelessly the men and women of law enforcement work to protect the citizens of Christian County. They do so often at great risk of harm to themselves and their colleagues, much more so than we realized. We would like to commend the law enforcement officers of Christian County. They should be proud of their commitment to making our community a safer place for all.

During our time of service, two issues came to the fore as needing attention. The first is the amount of crimes that are directly related to drugs in Christian County. We found the sheer number of cases involving drugs to be very disheartening. It seems that working to reduce drug use in our community, through stronger drug laws and/or working to solve the systemic problems that lead to drug use, would curb a lot of other crimes that stem from drugs.


The other issue that stood out during our term of service was that of the misuse of government benefits, particularly food stamps. We believe that more home visits and background checks should be conducted on applicants for government benefits. Although we understand that staffing and money for such actions are always in short supply, we pay our taxes to support the elderly and those less fortunate, not for people who are purposefully gaming the system. Overall, it appears that many people in our society are working to beat the system instead of working to improve their community. This makes us even more thankful to the law enforcement officials in the county.

It has been a privilege and an honor to serve on the grand jury for Christian County, and we are glad to have been of service to our community.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
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Foreperson

  
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Date