

# PROCLAMATION

OF THE

## MENDOCINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS RECOGNIZING FEBRUARY 2024 AS GRAND JURY AWARENESS MONTH IN MENDOCINO COUNTY

**WHEREAS**, every year in each of California's fifty-eight counties, nineteen ordinary citizens take an oath to voluntarily serve a term of one year as grand jurors; and

**WHEREAS**, grand juries have been in existence since the adoption of California's original Constitution in 1849-1850; and

**WHEREAS**, grand juries conduct their investigations under the auspices of the Superior Court of California and have broad access to public officials, employees, records, and information. One of the most important functions of a grand jury is to review the operations of the officers, departments, and agencies of local government; and

**WHEREAS**, grand juries are charged with investigating and reporting on local governmental operations to assure that their responsibilities are being fulfilled legally, efficiently, honestly and in the best interest of the public. Grand juries serve as a watchdog authority and are well suited to the effective investigation of local governments because they are independent bodies, operationally separate from the entities and officials they investigate; and

**WHEREAS**, the grand jury's fact-finding efforts result in reports that contain specific recommendations aimed at identifying problems and offering ways to improve government operations and enhance responsiveness; and

**WHEREAS**, the hard work done by grand juries has a great effect on our communities and makes California a better place to live; and

**WHEREAS**, the reward of being a grand juror is the satisfaction received from working with fellow residents and community members to improve local government for all; and

**WHEREAS**, it is appropriate to recognize the efforts of those jurors, both past and present, who have volunteered their time and service to the Mendocino County Grand Jury.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mendocino, hereby proclaims February, 2024, as:

"Grand Jury Awareness Month"

Dated:

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Maureen Mulheren, Chair