

**Criminal Court Division III,
Davidson County, Tennessee**



Grand Jury Final Report
January – March 2014

The Honorable Judge Cheryl Blackburn

Grand Jurors

Stan Fossick, Foreperson *Stan Fossick*

Donna Allen *Donna Allen/Db*

Joseph Armstrong *Joseph Armstrong*

Melanie Brooks *Melanie Brooks*

Wendy Curry *Wendy Curry*

Mark Garfola *Mark Garfola*

Debbie Graham *Debbie Graham*

William Holland *William Holland*

Ramona McKenzie *Ramona McKenzie*

Melanie Officer *Melanie Officer*

Jack Shaw - *Jack Shaw/BW*

David Sussman - *David Sussman*

Louise Walker - *Louise Walker*

Betty Wilkerson - *Betty Wilkerson*

The members of the Davidson County Grand Jury for the January 2014 term submit this report at the conclusion of our three-month term under The Honorable Judge Cheryl Blackburn.

In accordance with Tennessee Rules of Criminal Procedure, the grand jurors heard and deliberated upon cases over the past three months. We presented the court with the following:

- Bound over: 868 True Bills and 2 No True Bills
- 2 Presentments

During the first week of our term, we heard presentations from District Attorney General Victor "Torry" Johnson III, the Drug Task Force, the Gang Unit, the Domestic Violence Unit, the Sex Crimes Unit, Child Protective Services, Warrants and the DUI unit. These presentations gave us a greater knowledge base to the cases that was later presented to us.

The Davidson County Grand Jury met with Mayor Karl Dean and discussed the plans and priorities for the City. We also met with Chief Steve Anderson where he discussed the future of new precincts and the organization structure of the Metro Police Department.

We express our appreciation and thanks to those who took the time to present to us, including representatives of the following:

- The Metro Police Department (*special thanks to Sargent Robert Bandish*)
- Tennessee Bureau of Investigation
- Federal Bureau of Investigation
- Metro Park Police
- Tennessee State University Police Department
- Loss prevention personnel from Wal-Mart, Kroger, Home Depot and other stores.
- Nashville Airport Police Department
- Tennessee Wildlife Resources Association

Our Foreman, Stan Fossick, arranged several field trips that broadened our understanding of our police department and judicial system. These field trips were highly educational. With the help of the Division III Grand Jury Coordinator, Donna Draper, Stan & Donna coordinated to the following:

- Metro Police Training Academy (Gun Repair, Tasers, Force, K-9, Ride-alongs)
- Metro Police Department Compstat

Recommendations

1. The Sex Unit needs more personnel to assist with the search for child porn on the Internet.
2. A policy to allow citizens with revoked or suspended license to get their license reinstated. Allowing citizens to receive a restricted license would help them greatly. This would allow them to work and drive for their family obligations.
3. Misdemeanors should be kept in General Sessions Court.
4. Drug Task Force unit needs a night camera for surveillance.

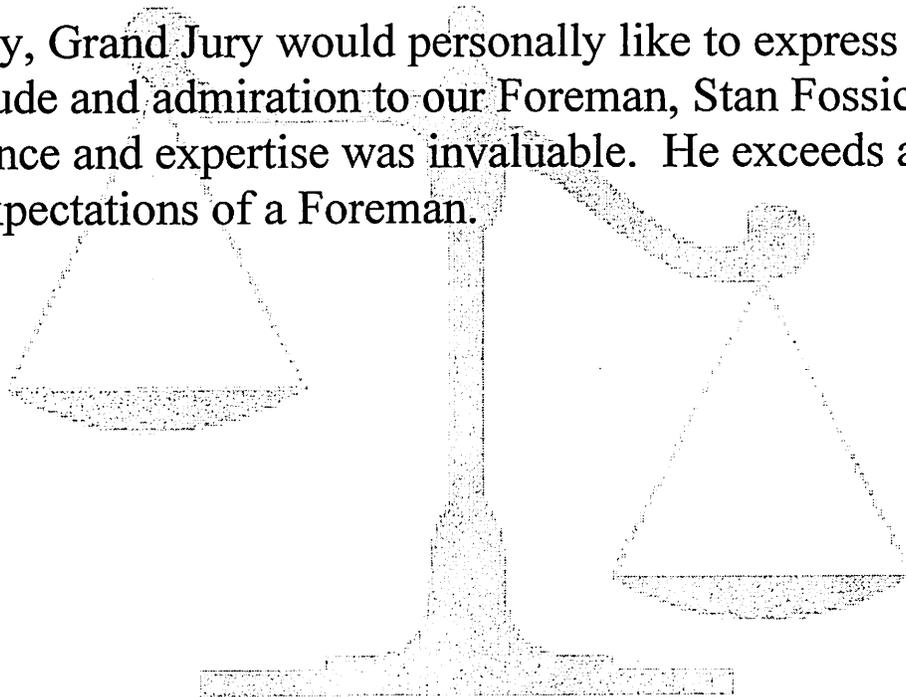
Remarks

An asset that is worthy of mention is the method of how cases are presented to the Grand Jury. Rather than have individual officers present their particular cases, an overall police representative fulfills the role. This allows police officers to remain on duty in their various precincts. Sgt. Robert Bandish and alternate Sgt. Julie Kuchenbecker have filled the role of overall representative and have done a remarkable job with assistance from Lori Hooberry of the District Attorney's office.

The Grand Jury would like to extend our deepest gratitude to the following individuals:

- Sgt. Robert Bandish
- Sgt. Julie Kuchenbecker
- Donna Draper, Division III Grand Jury Coordinator
- Judge Cheryl Blackburn
- The District Attorney Office and Staff

Finally, Grand Jury would personally like to express our gratitude and admiration to our Foreman, Stan Fossick. His guidance and expertise was invaluable. He exceeds all of the expectations of a Foreman.



PRESENTMENTS

On the following matters presented to the Grand Jury, the panel recommended no criminal charges be filed:

- In the case of Jason Anderson regarding a boating accident on Percy Priest lake, September 1, 2013, whereby Harvie Butler died of injuries related to the accident, the Grand Jury found that there was no criminal action by the defendant, Jason Anderson.
- In the case related to defendant, Jessica Cothon, in the shooting death of live-in boyfriend, Anderous Reid, the Grand Jury found that although the defendant, Jessica Cothon, shot Anderous Reid three times killing him, she was acting in self-defense and that no action should be taken.