

# **Grand Jury Final Report**

**January Term - 2015**

**Steve R. Dozier, Judge  
Criminal Court Division 1**

**Submitted on March 27, 2015**

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Criminal Court Division 1  
January Term - 2015  
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**Grand Jurors:**

Stan Fossick, foreperson  
AnnAlyse Barclay  
(Carla) Teresa Campbell  
Terry Den Adel  
Marilee Dye  
Craig Ellis  
Johnny Erwin  
Sheryl Friend  
Tina Goins  
James Myers  
Hugh Smith  
Vivian Stephens  
Andy Stoebner  
Kevin Welsh  
Javita Wooten  
Tameka Beasley  
Gwen (Glenda) Hughes

**Introduction:**

This summary is presented by the jurors for the January 2015 term. Although we missed 4 days due to the snowy winter this year, we were able to meet on 27 days and heard 795 cases. Of those we were able to present 794 "True Bills" and 1 "No True Bill." Recommendations on bond amounts and charges were made as well.

**Preparation:**

Considerable efforts were made to provide this grand jury with necessary information orienting us as we prepared to hear cases. Printed materials, speakers, and field trips provided us with a basic understanding of the criminal justice system and a base of knowledge that would be helpful as we heard cases.

**Printed materials:** In addition to the General Charge, we received an overview of the criminal justice system, a glossary of terms, and information on "Our Kids", the Warrant Division, and the Police Department Precinct.

**Speakers:** These speakers shared valuable information with us.

General Glen Funk  
General Michaela Mathews  
Det. Jeff Wise with the CSA Unit  
Sue Ross, RN with Our Kids  
Sgt. Gene Donegan with the Drug Task Force  
Sgt. Jon Boese with the Gangs Unit  
Sgt. Carlos Anderson, Det. John Timm, Det. Amanda Martin with the Domestic Violence Unit  
Officer Brad Nave, Dui Unit  
Captain Randall Hickerson, Warrants Division  
Chief of Police Steve Anderson  
Mayor Karl Dean

**Field Trips:** These trips were beneficial and enlightening.

Police Academy – gave us an understanding of police officer training and a greater respect for the men, women, and canines we met.

River Bend Correctional Facility – an insightful look into the main prison.

COMSTAT – a glimpse of the precincts weekly meeting

Ride Alongs – many of us took the opportunity to ride with a police officer during part of a shift. These were informative and enlightening.

### **Observations & Recommendations**

- The time frame of cases presented was of concern to us. There seemed to be a significant delay in hearing cases. Some of the cases were over a year in preparation. This is especially disturbing with child abuse cases.
- Some of the cases seem like they would have been more appropriately heard in General Sessions court. Is this used as a delay tactic or a way to get a better DA?
- The illegal sale of prescription drugs continues to be a serious problem.
- The number of priors for many of the suspects is staggering. Should there be harsher sentences for repeat offenders.
- Are schools addressing anger management issues? Many of the cases appear to be intensified by the suspect's inability to handle anger. This seem especially true with the young adult population.
- There appears to be an increase of domestic violence cases. This could be a result of the restructuring in that area that enables the cases to be processed more efficiently. We wish more resources could be put into preventing domestic violence.
- Presenters are usually well prepared in presenting information before the Grand Jury which makes it easier/better when deciding if a true bill should be issued.
- Although the District Attorney's office puts considerable effort into deciding the actual charges made against the offenders, we did adjust a few, adding or decreasing charges.
- Some of the cases were difficult and although we did "true bill" many of those, we trust the judges to sort out the humanity issues in their pursuit of justice.
- It does appear in dealing with children, the caseworkers need to have more training in balancing the needs of the child with the needs of the custodial adult. This is not a legalistic area.

### **Presentment**

One case resulted in no action because the defendant did not purposely discharge his firearm.

### **Remarks**

Parking on Bank Street made it much easier for jurors to arrive on time or early. As a result we were able to begin before 8:30 on many days.

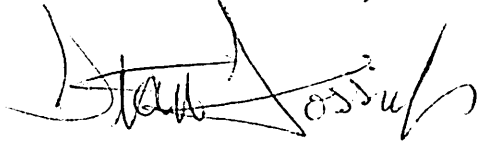
Stan's donuts were greatly appreciated and helped on many of the long morning sessions. Having coffee and hot water available were beneficial also. Larger cups would be a good improvement as would adding a microwave to the break room.

Our session was greatly aided by the diligence of the following. Thank you for your kind assistance during our session.

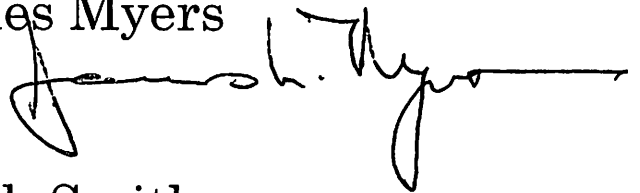
- Lori Hooberry, secretary
- Sgt. Robert Bandish
- Chad Turnbow
- Wendy Skidmore
- Judges
- Assistant District Attorneys and Staff
- Tommy Newman

# Grand Jury Members

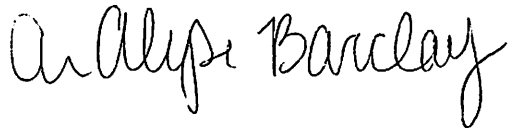
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James Myers



AnnAlyse Barclay



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(Carla) Teresa Campbell



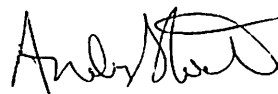
Vivian Stephens



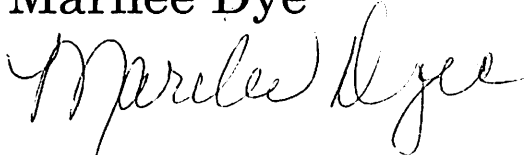
Terry Den Adel



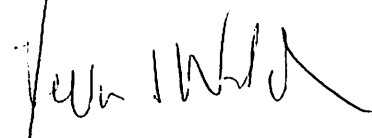
Andy Stoebner




Marilee Dye



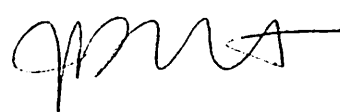
Kevin Welsh



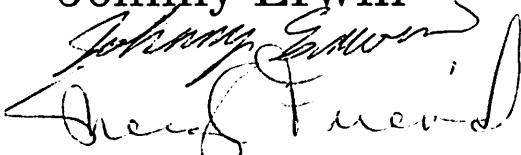
Craig Ellis



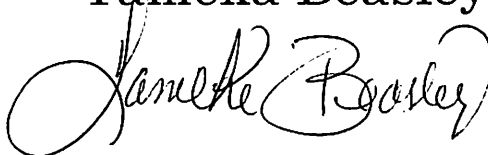
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Johnny Erwin

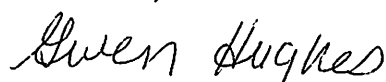


Tameka Beasley



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