

We, the members of the summer term of the Grand Jury of Davidson County, submit this report as a summary of our services and experience.

We were charged by Judge Cheryl A. Blackburn with determining probable cause executed in cases presented by the District Attorney's office. We first reported on July 14, 2021, our term ended on September 30, 2021.

We heard cases from various presenters such as:
Various Metro Nashville Police Department Officers
Davidson County Sheriff Office
Metro Nashville Fire Department Investigators Unit
Goodlettsville Police Department
Berry Hill Police Department
BNA Nashville International Airport Police Department
Tennessee Highway Patrol
Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency
Drug Enforcement Administration
Tennessee Comptroller of the Treasury
Departments Store Loss Prevention


We have heard 621 cases with 617 True Bills & 3 No True Bills.
One case was presented but withheld for the next term.

Regular Jurors

Parker Toler, Foreperson
Darlene Frey, Secretary
Kiescha Foster, Assistant Secretary
Janet O'Neal, Sergeant at Arms
Kimberley Andrews
Pamela Brooks
Dennis Durbin
Yolander Frye
Eloise Pillow
Anita Smikes
Lisa Kinzer-Scales
Kathleen Pidruzny
Shanrekia Ward

Alternate Jurors

Darren Duckworth
Olive Gordon
Elizabeth Pilling
James Sick, III
John O'Neal
Stirling Snow
Georgia Travis

FILED
Davidson County
Criminal Court Clerk
OCT 06 2021
BY 
Deputy Clerk

Ron Turner
Shaun Watson
Judy Gifford
Diane Howard
Sandra Pace

On August 4, 2021, Mayor John Cooper announced additional measures to protect public health. Due to the increase of the Delta variant, face coverings were required to be worn in all Metro Nashville Government buildings.

On-Site visits

Due to COVID-19, the Grand Jury was unable to conduct off-site visits. Due to this several MNPD units came to discuss specialize MNPD programs with the Grand Jury.

The following were presented:

A Crisis Intervention Team pilot program has been implemented. Metro Nashville Police Department and Mental Health Cooperative Specialist are trained paired together to de-escalated situations within the community during call-outs. This ride-along program is currently being piloted in the Hermitage and North precincts.

It was reported, Chief John Drake has implemented an Alternative Policing Strategies Juvenile Diversion. This program is being overseen by MNPD veteran, Terrence Graves. The department hopes to join forces with the Davidson County Juvenile Court, to decrease the current youth violence concerns. Also, a program similar to the Police Athletic League is in the development stages with the hopes to relaunch soon.

Concerns/Recommendations

During this jury term, a case was represented to the jury after a “no true bill” was granted. There was a reported concern by a juror, that this case could be represented to a new jury after a “no true bill” was granted on a previous jury.

A child’s sexual abuse case was presented to the grand jury by an investigator from the DA’s office. It was believed this case sat for several months due to the previous investigator not having enough evidence to process. However, once this case was presented there was clear evidence for an Indictment.

It is believed the youth violence in the Davidson County area has not improved. The Jury hopes the currently Alternative Police Strategies helps decrease these current concerns.

The cases being heard are traumatizing and at times difficult to process. Remind jurors of this and provide mental health resources.

Final Thoughts and appreciation


We found this experience of serving on the Grand Jury to rewarding. It was our pleasure to serve with a group of individuals from various backgrounds and skills sets.

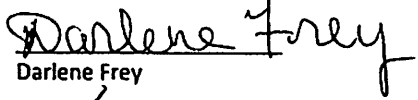
The Grand Jury would like to take this opportunity to extend a sincere thank you to Judge Cheryl A. Blackburn, Judicial Assistant April Lee for allowing us this opportunity.

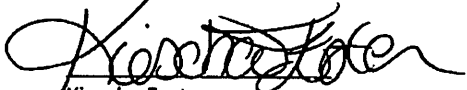
Officer Mike Fisher is an excellent representative of the MNP. His expertise as an officer and MNP policies was helpful and informative. We thank Officer Fisher as well as Officer Nathaniel Ellsworth.

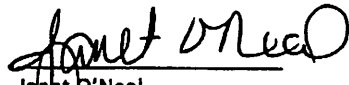
We would also like to thank all the frontline workers that are working hard to bring all the cases to justice.

Finally, The District Attorney General's Office of their ongoing will to answer the grand jury's questions and provide adequate literacy that supported answers.


Parker Toler, Foreperson



Darlene Frey


Kiescha Foster


Janet O'Neal


Kimberley Andrews


Pamela Brooks

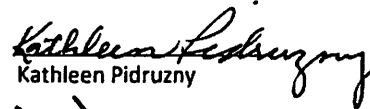

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