

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF CHEROKEE COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA

GRAND JURY PRESENTMENTS
JANUARY 2010 TERM

TO: The Honorable Frank C. Mills, III, Chief Judge
Superior Court of Cherokee County, Georgia

The Honorable N. Jackson Harris, Judge
Superior Court of Cherokee County, Georgia

The Honorable Ellen McElyea, Judge
Superior Court of Cherokee County, Georgia

We, the members of the Grand Jury, chosen and sworn to serve the January 2010 term of the Superior Court of Cherokee County, hereby submit the following report and recommendations:

PRESENTMENT 1

We, the January 2010 Grand Jury, express our sincere appreciation to District Attorney Garry Moss and the Assistant District Attorneys for their expertise, efficiency, and high level of professionalism in presenting indictments. We also express our gratitude to all law enforcement personnel, CMANS personnel and other witnesses who took time out of their schedules to testify and present evidence to the Grand Jury. All were very helpful in answering questions and ensuring that the Grand Jury had the necessary information and instructions to properly perform its duties.

PRESENTMENT 2

We, the January 2010 Grand Jury, express our sincere appreciation to Superior Court Chief Bailiff Jane Johnson and Bailiff Johnny Champion for their assistance to the Grand Jury in managing the schedule of cases, preparing materials, handling the Grand Jury payroll, scheduling tours, scheduling guest speakers, arranging for the review of ballots, and assisting the Grand Jury to properly perform its duties. They were especially considerate of our comfort in the Grand Jury room. We thank them for their friendliness, professionalism and helpfulness.

PRESENTMENT 3

We, the January 2010 Grand Jury, express our thanks to Patty Baker, Clerk of Superior Court for providing resumes and information necessary for the Grand Jury to perform its duty in appointing a member to the Cherokee County Tax Equalization Board.

PRESENTMENT 4

We, the January 2010 Grand Jury, commend Cherokee County Sheriff Roger Garrison for his leadership of the Cherokee County Sheriff's Office. We commend all city and county law enforcement personnel and the representatives of the Cherokee Multi-Agency Narcotics Squad (CMANS) for their service to our county and the protection of its citizens. Their professionalism and dedication is truly appreciated.

PRESENTMENT 5

We, the January 2010 Grand Jury express our sincere appreciation to Major Karen Johnson, Captain Hill and Sergeant Harris for hosting a very in-depth and informative tour of the Cherokee County Adult Detention Center. The facility was found to be clean, well-maintained and secure. Special note was made by the Grand Jury as to the level of discipline maintained and the respect displayed to the jurors by the inmates during our tour, which is a direct reflection of the superior level of supervision by Major Johnson's staff. The Grand Jury makes the following three recommendations as a result of its tour:

1. It is recommended that a standardized identification card or certificate be created for admission to the Adult Detention Center by visiting pastors, counselors, attorneys, or others on official business. It has been the experience of Grand Jury members in the past that no standardization is in place for timely and efficient entry into the facility. It is further recommended that a fingerprint identification system for official visitors be put into place, similar to the one used for inmate identification.
2. It is recommended that there be a review of policy regarding infection control in the medical unit of the Adult Detention Center. It was noted that during our tour that an inmate's dressings were being changed in our presence in non-compliance of infection control standards.
3. It was noted that the Adult Detention Center was over-crowded during the Grand Jury's visit in February. It is recommended that the future expansion of the facility and its staff be addressed by the county due to the potential problems this situation presents. However, given the over-crowded situation, we commend Major Johnson and her staff for keeping a well-maintained and secure facility.

PRESENTMENT 6

We, the January 2010 Grand Jury, express our gratitude to Robby Westbrook, Director of the Cherokee County's Office of Homeland Security Emergency Management Center for the informative presentation and tour provided of this facility in February. We commend the Director and his staff for the service they provide to the Cherokee County citizens in time of emergencies and disasters. This state-of-the-art facility was found to be very well prepared to handle emergency situations for the county.

We also wish to thank Mr. Westbrook for visiting the Grand Jury room in March to present the Cherokee County Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) at our request. Although the actual COOP document is highly classified, we appreciate the generalized information he was able to provide to help us understand how Cherokee County is prepared to continue with its normal course of business in the event of a disaster.

PRESENTMENT 7

We, the January 2010 Grand Jury, express our gratitude to Chris Collett and his staff for allowing us to tour the Cherokee County 911 Center. This state-of-the-art center was found to be efficiently operated and well staffed. We thank them for their service to the county.

PRESENTMENT 8

We, the January 2010 Grand Jury, express our appreciation to Corporal Ronnie Reece for his time and expertise in providing a tour of the Cherokee County Courthouse as well as the Old Courthouse. His vast knowledge made the tour very informative.

PRESENTMENT 9

We, the January 2010 Grand Jury, had the privilege of meeting and interviewing several highly qualified candidates for the open position on the Cherokee County Tax Equalization Board. After careful consideration, we hereby appoint Danny F. Dukes, CPA, MBA, CFE, to this position.

PRESENTMENT 10

We, the January 2010 Grand Jury, were charged with the task of inspecting the election records. This was done through committee, and the ballots were found to be in proper order.

PRESENTMENT 11

We, the January 2010 Grand Jury, recommend that a lectern be placed near the center of the Grand Jury Room to be used by the Assistant District Attorneys in presenting their cases. This recommendation is made based on the fact that several of the Grand Jurors had difficulty hearing the cases presented as well as the testimony given by witnesses. By placing the Assistant District Attorney and the witness in the front of the room, it is believed that this will better provide for equal access to communication.

Respectfully submitted this 7th day of May, 2010.



Susan M. Whiteside, Foreperson
January 2010 Grand Jury

CHEROKEE COUNTY

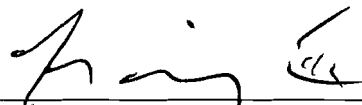
STATE OF GEORGIA

ORDER

The within and foregoing Grand Jury Presentments having read and considered, let the same be filed.

Let a copy of the Presentments, along with a copy of the Order, be sent to the Cherokee Tribune and Radio Station WLJA for publication and the usual fees paid thereon.

This the 7 day of May, 2010.



FRANK C. MILLS, III
Judge, Superior
Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF CHEROKEE COUNTY

STATE OF GEORGIA

BOARD OF TAX EQUALIZATION APPOINTMENT

The Grand Jury for Cherokee County, Georgia, January Term, 2010, pursuant to O.C.G.A. §48-5-311, notice from Board of Tax Equalization, and after publication by the Clerk of Superior Court in compliance with O.C.G.A. §15-12-81 hereby appoint as a

- A. Regular Member
- B. Numbered Alternate Member Number _____
- C. Additional Alternate Member

DANNY F. DUKES

NAME

to the Board of Tax Equalization of Cherokee County to succeed **Bob Woodall**,
for a regular term commencing January 1, 2010 and ending December 31, 2012.


Foreman

Clerk

SO ORDERED this 7 day of May, 2010.



Judge, Superior Court
Cherokee County, Georgia