

Patty Baker, Clerk of Superior Court Cherokee Cty, GA

CHEROKEE COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA

GRAND JURY PRESENTMENTS

TO: The Honorable Ellen McElyea
Chief Judge, Superior Court
Cherokee County, Georgia

The Honorable David L. Cannon, Jr.
Judge, Superior Court
Cherokee County, Georgia

The Honorable M. Anthony Baker
Judge, Superior Court
Cherokee County, Georgia

We, the members of the Grand Jury, chosen and sworn to serve the January 2019 term of the Superior Court of Cherokee County, hereby submit the following report and recommendations.

We, the January 2019 Grand Jury, heard 172 bills of Indictment, returned 172 true bills and 0 no bills.

Presentment 1

We, the January 2019 Grand Jury, commend Superior Court Bailiffs Johnny Champion, Faye McCurry, Sandra Foster and Tyrone Gates for their diligent assistance in arranging materials for the Grand Jury proceedings, managing the schedule for cases to be presented, coordinating Grand Jury payroll and ensuring that all of the proceedings ran smoothly.

Presentment 2

We the January 2019 Grand Jury, commend District Attorney Shannon Wallace, each of her Assistant District Attorneys and staff members, and each law enforcement officer and investigator associated with the cases brought before this Grand Jury for their professionalism and hard work in protecting the citizens of Cherokee County.

Presentment 3

As part of the duties and responsibilities of a Grand Jury, we, the January 2019 Grand Jury, interviewed applicants interested in filling the vacancies on the Cherokee County Board of Equalization. A committee of five members of the January 2019 Grand Jury met on Monday,

February 11, 2019, to formulate questions to be asked of the applicants, and the applicants were then interviewed on Tuesday, February 12, 2019. The committee presented the information obtained from the interviews to the entire Grand Jury on March 11, 2019 and the Grand Jury voted to appoint Stephen Divine and Dennis McIntire. With respect to future Board of Equalization appointments, we, the January 2019 Grand Jury, hereby make the following recommendations:

Recommendation 1

We, the January 2019 Grand Jury, recommend that future Grand Juries interview all applicants for the Board of Equalization in order to determine any potential bias and to determine technical competence.

Recommendation 2

We, the January 2019 Grand Jury, recommend that all county and public officials participating in the Board of Equalization hearings remain courteous and professional to each other and to the public at all times.

Presentment 4

We, the January 2019 Grand Jury sincerely express thanks to the Clerk of Court, Patty Baker and Lisa Cline for their thorough and knowledgeable overview of the Board of Equalization and for explaining the appointment process to the Grand Jury. The committee appreciates Lisa Cline's prompt action to schedule the applicants in a timely fashion in order to proceed with the interviewing process.

Presentment 5

We, the January 2019 Grand Jury, express our appreciation to Cherokee County Sheriff Frank Reynolds, Lt. Irene Ruiz and her assistant Lisa Plumb for hosting an informative tour of the Cherokee County Adult Detention Center. We toured the intake and the living and eating area of the facility. We also appreciate Mike Dinkens, the Trinity Services Food Supervisor, who provided our lunch. Overall, we found the areas visited to be clean, well lit, and effectively managed and orderly. The murals created by the inmates displayed along the central corridor were impressive. We would like to commend the members of the detention center staff that we interacted with, specifically, Lt. Irene Ruiz. She was extremely knowledgeable, informative and professional with her dealings with the Grand Jury members. We, the January 2019 Grand Jury, make the following recommendations with respect to the Cherokee County Adult Detention Center:

Recommendation 1:

We, the January 2019 Grand Jury, recommend that supervised outdoor time for the inmates be allowed one time per week in an uncovered, outdoor area;

Recommendation 2:

We, the January 2019 Grand Jury, recommend that Cherokee County conduct an indoor air quality study to ensure proper air exchange rate is being maintained in the areas of high population;

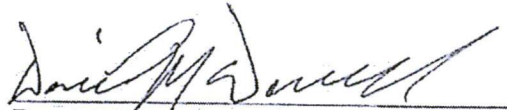
Recommendation 3:

We, the January 2019 Grand Jury, recommend that, prior to any future inspections of the Cherokee County Adult Detention Center, the currently seated Grand Jury review the presentments and recommendations of the previous Grand Juries to ensure prior recommendations have been considered and/or acted upon.

Presentment 6

We, the January 2019 Grand Jury, express thanks to the Honorable Judge Ellen McElyea for her professionalism and informative empanelment and orientation of this Grand Jury.

Respectfully submitted this 8th day of April, 2019.



Dan McDonnell
Grand Jury Foreperson

CHEROKEE COUNTY

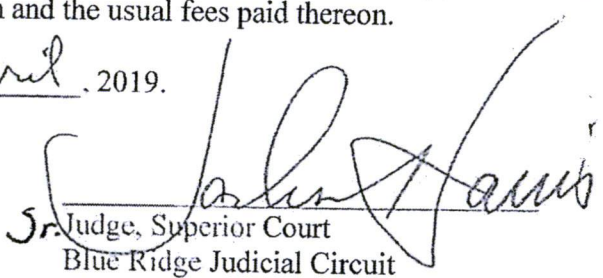
STATE OF GEORGIA

ORDER

It is ordered that the within and foregoing Grand Jury Presentments having been read and considered, the same be filed.

It is further ordered that a copy of the Presentments along with a copy of this Order be sent to the Cherokee Tribune for publication and the usual fees paid thereon.

This the 8 day of April, 2019.


Jr. Judge, Superior Court
Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit