

## Superior Court of California County of San Bernardino

Michael A. Sachs Presiding Judge 247 West Third Street, Eleventh Floor San Bernardino, CA 92415-0302 (909) 708-8767

May 15, 2020

San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors San Bernardino County Government Center 385 N. Arrowhead Ave., 5<sup>th</sup> Floor San Bernardino, CA 92415-0110

Curt Hagman, Chairman Fourth District Supervisor Josie Gonzales, Vice Chair Fifth District Supervisor

Robert A. Lovingood First District Supervisor Janice Rutherford Second District Supervisor Dawn Rowe Third District Supervisor

Dear Members of the Board of Supervisors:

Due to the recent impact the coronavirus (COVID-19) has had on our County, the Court has ordered a six-month extension for the current 2019-2020 Grand Jury to complete its term and submit its Final Report by December 31, 2020.

With this extension in place, the Court is respectfully requesting the Board of Supervisors amend the Civil Grand Jury term from fiscal year to calendar year permanently, pursuant to Penal Code 905.5(b). This change will allow the new 2021 Civil Grand Jury a full twelve months to conduct its duties and responsibility. Otherwise, the 2021 Civil Grand Jury would only have a six-month term to conduct its investigations and complete its report by June 30, 2021.

The Court appreciates your consideration of this request. The importance of the San Bernardino County Grand Jury having a full year to investigate and prepare its report is a key part of the process aimed at increasing the accountability, efficiency, and effectiveness of our County's local governments.

Michael A. Sachs

Presiding Judge

MAS:sb

cc: Michelle Blakemore, County Counsel, San Bernardino County