

**GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT
SUMMER SESSION**

**Presented To:
The Honorable Cheryl Blackburn
Criminal Court-Division Three**

**Davidson County, Tennessee
July 6, 2009 - September 25, 2009**

WE, THE DAVIDSON COUNTY GRAND JURORS FOR THE SUMMER SESSION OF 2009, SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING FINAL REPORT.

Expression of Gratitude

We would like to include several people in the expression of our gratitude for this opportunity to serve our fellow citizens.

First, we remember our forefathers who settled at Fort Nashborough in 1779, who without a vision of freedom from tyranny and having a desire of freedom of worship, none of us would be here exercising the freedom of a society whose duty is justice. We are truly grateful and owe a debt to their sacrifice for our future.

Now to our present time; we, the jurors, would like to thank the following: Judge Cheryl Blackburn, for allowing us to serve on her jury; Stanley Fossick, for his leadership in the court sessions; the District Attorney General, who guided us in law matters when definition was needed; and Daniel Newbern, whose work in processing and presenting officers' cases has sped up the justice process.

We have had several people that devoted their time to speak with this Grand Jury and educate us on different aspects of criminal investigations and human behaviors. We, at this time, would like to express our gratitude for their efforts: Capt. Todd Henry & Paul Tricky, who came with the drug task force and explained how drug trafficking works; Capt. Rita Baker, who came from the domestic violence unit and explained how most victims will not prosecute their attackers; and Officer Jessie Loy, who came from the DUI task force and explained the sobriety test.

We also would like to express gratitude to Mayor Karl Dean and Chief Ronal Serpas for taking time to talk with us about the status of Nashville. We enjoyed their insight, vision and plans for Nashville's future. We were pleased to know that crime, as a whole, has taken a

downward spiral in Nashville and that our leaders are full of hope and vision for a prosperous Nashville of tomorrow.

Concerns and Recommendations

Several cases have been presented that disturb this jury. Below are said concerns and our recommendations for the start of a solution to these problems. Also included are some praises for people that, in our view, have succeeded in finding partial solutions and have made a difference in this community. In viewing the previous two Grand Jury reports, we have found that many of our concerns have been voiced by other juries. In those cases, we will again bring to view an ongoing outcry for reform. We do this in an attempt to secure the future of our children and a better Nashville for all citizens. We, the jury, understand the economic times that we face, yet a view of an investment in tomorrow is what is needed now to ensure a happier way of life, just like our forefathers invested in our future. Let us spend money more wisely, so we can have a better return for Nashville's future.

First, we would like to bring to our leaders' attention the background checks of the present teaching staff and employees of the Metro Nashville School district who are near our children for many hours of the day. This jury has heard a case in which the hiring process of the school system failed and children were hurt because of said failure.

This jury did a further investigation on its own, hearing from Dr. Beverly Keel (the school hiring administrator). She assured us that the process going forward will work. She explained that two people were fired and a third was suspended because of the system's failure. We heard from TBI and were pleased to find out that they did their job. However, in an attempt to protect people from wrongful identity situations, a computer query was turned off, allowing these people to slip through to our children. From the TBI we also learned that in three
