

**Media contact:**

Judy Wohlfrom, Foreperson  
Judy.Wohlfrom@yolocounty.org  
(530) 406-5088

June 6, 2018

**Elections Office addressed problems, Grand Jury concludes**

*New report follows up on investigation by last year's Grand Jury*

The Yolo County Elections Office has sufficiently addressed issues identified in a 2016-17 Grand Jury investigation, according to a follow-up report by the current Grand Jury released today.

“Given the appointment of the new Elections Officer in 2016 and the confirmed improvement of Elections Office operational practices, the Grand Jury has only two further recommendations to make,” the new report states.

Those recommendations are:

- Because of the critical need for ongoing training in all areas, the Elections Office should maintain documentation of all training classes and individual instruction that includes, at minimum: signatures of individuals attending with date and topic covered.
- Given that elected officials are accountable only to the voters every four years, the Department of Financial Services should conduct a full audit of the Elections Office annually.

In its report last year, “Yolo County Elections Office Indiscretions and Culpability,” the 2016-17 Grand Jury identified a range of issues within the Elections Office including misuse of public funds, conflicts of interest and undue influence. Additionally, the 2016-17 Grand Jury found that inadequate training was provided to the Elections office leadership and staff.

The follow-up report by the current Grand Jury examined the implementation and effectiveness of a Corrective Action Plan developed by the Assessor/Clerk-Recorder/Registrar of Voters Office in response to the earlier issues.

The full report will be posted online on the Grand Jury's website:

<http://www.yolocounty.org/business/community/grand-jury/yolo-county-grand-jury-reports>

**About the Yolo County Grand Jury**

The Yolo County Grand Jury is made up of 19 citizens selected by the Yolo County Superior Court. Jurors serve one-year terms that conclude on June 30 each year. In addition to advising the county District Attorney on whether to bring indictments in select criminal cases, the Yolo

## 2017-2018 YOLO COUNTY GRAND JURY NEWS RELEASE

County Grand Jury also conducts an annual inquiry into the condition and management of public jails and serves as a citizen watchdog over public offices and agencies within the county. Yolo County residents who are interested in participating on the Grand Jury may learn how to apply at [www.yolocounty.org/business/community/grand-jury](http://www.yolocounty.org/business/community/grand-jury).

### **How to file a complaint with the Grand Jury**

Residents who have a complaint or concern about a public official or entity can download an application here: <https://yolocountyca.seamlessdocs.com/f/CitizensComplaintForm>. Complaint forms are also available at the county courthouse, county jail facilities and local libraries, or can be requested by calling (530) 406-5088 or writing to the Grand Jury, P.O. Box 2142, Woodland, CA 95776. Completed complaint forms, including any relevant evidence, should be mailed to P.O. Box 2142, Woodland, CA 95776 or emailed to [grandjury@sbcglobal.net](mailto:grandjury@sbcglobal.net).