

The 2015 – 2016 Santa Barbara County Grand Jury  
For Immediate Release  
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News Release

## **CITY OF SANTA BARBARA** **Commissions, Committees, and Boards**

The 2015-2016 Santa Barbara County Grand Jury (Jury) was asked to investigate potential conflicts of interest among the City of Santa Barbara's (City) appointed commissions, committees, and boards and the influence of their members on the City's policies. The City has functioning advisory groups to the Santa Barbara City Council, Charter Boards, and Commissions required by Article VIII of the City Charter. The City also makes appointments to four groups created by California State law. The Jury looked into the very large number of these advisory groups, their responsibilities, and their influence. The Jury considered the following questions: Do conflicts of interest exist; have some of these entities outlived their usefulness; do some of them have overlapping mandates?

The Jury made several findings and recommendations. Per State Statute the City of Santa Barbara City Council has 90 days to respond to the Jury's recommendations.

The Jury's report, titled "City of Santa Barbara, Commissions, Committees, and Boards" can be found on its website at [www.sbcgj.org](http://www.sbcgj.org).

The Santa Barbara County Grand Jury is a basic part of government within the judicial branch. The Grand Jury acts independently, yet is under the general control of the Superior Court Presiding Judge to assure that it acts in accordance with the Penal Code of the State of California.

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