

been announced by Brian Foss, acting port director.

Assistant County Clerk Richard Bedell Swears In New Grand Jury

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New County Grand Jury Sworn In

By JIM HOOKER

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Members of the 1977-78 county grand jury were sworn in during ceremonies presided over by Superior Court Judge Harry F. Brauer in the county courts building this morning.

Approximately 30 prospective jurors were present for the random drawing to determine the next 19 people to sit on the grand jury.

Jury members are selected from jury panels initially chosen at random. Interviews are then conducted to arrive at the 30 prospective people from which the jury is chosen.

Those selected for the jury are Archie G. Ballenger Jr., Linda Lee Becker, Mary B. Bevernick, E. Doris Chisolm,

Edwin W. Choate, John S. Cooper, Richard Dosker Jr., Joseph Emanuelson, Sirleen J. Ghigleri, Diane Mary Jackson, Bonnie C. Jay, Marian R. Jenson, Donald M. Johnson, Isobel Lopez, Lillian C. McCoy, Carol L. Mueller, Susan R. Ragen, and Carolyn J. Swift. Foreman will be Edward C. Hall.

Judge Brauer, who will preside over the jury during its term, welcomed members to their "responsible, arduous tasks," and briefed the jurors on their functions and responsibilities while serving on the jury.

Brauer, who described himself as an "unabashed elitest" about the qualifications of the grand jury, described a member of the "elite" jury as

"a person of brains, judgement and emotional stability."

"As far as the judges of the court are concerned," he added, "you have the qualifications."

After appointment of the jury foreman, Brauer went on to explain the functions of the jury.

The first function, he said, is the criminal function, in which the jury's duty is to make inquiries into criminal offenses against the county.

The second function, he said, is civil, in which the jury has the power to make inquiries into the functioning of county employes and departments. In describing this responsibility, Brauer explained that "no county office is above your reach."

Brauer also warned the jury that it is a "collective body" and that power rests "with the grand jury as a whole," and not with any single member.

He went on to explain that the members have "substantial powers" that must be used carefully.

"Because you are in a respected body," he said, "you must avoid misusing your powers." He warned that the decisions of the jury are potentially powerful and must be made with "judgement and sober reflection."

The jury members will now go through a day-long orientation of jury procedures, during which the outgoing foreman will brief them on the agenda.

Earlier in the meeting, Super-

ior Court Judge Donald O. May thanked the retiring 1976-77 grand jury for its time and effort in investigating local government.

"What you wanted to study in depth was on the minds of most of the citizens," he said. "Morality in government, the planning department and fraudulent welfare claims were all examined by you."

Their investigations prompted better enforcement of the county's conflict of interest ordinance and prompted response from the planning department, said May.

"I wish to thank you for the hours of attention you have given to this effort," he added. "It takes a lot of time and many of you spent hours beyond that."