

To: The Clerk of Superior Court

Date: December 20, 2022

Subject: Grand Jury – September Term 2022

The Grand Jury met on September 13<sup>th</sup> and November 9<sup>th</sup> of the year 2022.

All cases on September 13<sup>th</sup> were re-heard on November 9<sup>th</sup> due to the ineligibility of one of the Grand Jurors to serve.

November 9, 2022:

69 Cases were presented

True Bills = 66 counts

No Bills = 3 counts

\*All Bills, notebooks, etc. were given to the Bailiff at end of day\*

One facility inspection was required for this term:

Liberty County Jail

September 14<sup>th</sup>

**Grand Jury Officers**

Foreperson: Timothy White III

Assistant Foreperson: Diane Warminsky

Clerk: Amy Blankenship

Assistant Clerk: Michelle Jacobs

Signed by Clerk, Amy Blankenship on December 20, 2022:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Amy Blankenship', written over a horizontal line.

To: The Clerk of Superior Court

Date: February 3, 2023

Subject: Grand Jury – September Term 2022

Facility Inspection – Liberty County Jail

On September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022 the four Grand Jury Officers performed a facility inspection at the Liberty County Jail. We were allowed to tour approximately 75 percent of the building.

We did not go into areas with inmates. However, we went into a lookout tower that had a 360-degree view. This allowed us to see inside several cell blocks.

We toured unoccupied cell blocks, kitchen, employee breakroom, medical triage room, front offices, and the booking area.

All four Grand Jury Officers were in agreement that the daily activities had a nice, even flow.

We were especially impressed by three aspects of the Liberty County Jail.

- 1- The hands-free body scanner in the booking area.
- 2- The inmates are provided with iPads. They are also allowed to send texts messages via information technology that is shared in each cell block.
- 3- There is an all hours, outside recreation area accessible to the inmates. If the weather is poor during the daylight hours, they are allowed to go outside after dark.

All four Grand Jury Officers were in agreement that the oldest building should be replaced. As of right now, yearly funds are being spent to patch the problems that exist. For example, funds are spent to temporarily repair the plumbing fairly often. Replacing the building would be a one-time expense. We agree that a small percentage of SPLOST funds should be set aside to take care of the needed building repair.

**Grand Jury Officers**

Foreperson: Timothy White III

Assistant Foreperson: Diane Warminsky

Clerk: Amy Blankenship

Assistant Clerk: Michelle Jacobs

Signed by Clerk, Amy Blankenship on February 3, 2023:

