



: Grand Jury Rules

15-CR-B

Andy Stitt

to:

Rules_Support@ao.uscourts.gov

05/27/2015 08:26 PM

Hide Details

From: Andy Stitt <stittad@yahoo.com>

To: "Rules_Support@ao.uscourts.gov" <Rules_Support@ao.uscourts.gov>

Please respond to Andy Stitt <stittad@yahoo.com>

To Whom It May Concern,

Grand Juries have been criticized for not being independent from the District Attorney for example jurors must rely on witnesses who have first gone through the District Attorney for most of their evidence. This is not what the founders intended. Rather a grand jury was supposed to be able to receive evidence from witnesses without the help of the District Attorney. In 1794 Attorney General Bradford stated a citizen may approach a grand jury directly... I therefore suggest a rule allowing a citizen to submit information concerning a matter under investigation by a grand jury directly to it. Grand juries should be instructed that probable cause means it is more than likely after a review of all the evidence can access of the truth of the charge(s) and they should be instructed they may invite the person(s) under investigation any witnesses in their defense to testify and consider that testimony in fining probable cause. Also the secrecy requirement should be amended to make clear it means only the power of the grand jury to investigate without the interference of the court or district attorney Lastly I believe grand juries should have the power to initiate charges by presentment which the fifth amendment recognizes but has been written out of the rules.

Sincerely,

Andrew D. Stitt